PRICE ONE PENNY.

# The Sydney Morning Herald.

Nº. 18,026. {Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

SYDNEY, THURSDAY. DECEMBER 26, 1895.

PRICE 1d.

## Deaths.

BROAT.—November 30, at Glenwood, Ilford, Doubema Elizabeth Groat, second eldest daughter of Anne and James Groat, aged 9 years and 3 months.

GODDARD.—December 24, 1895, at Namoi Cottage, Holterman-street, North Sydney, Eliza, widow of the late George Goddard, aged 76 years.

KAVANAGH.—November 7, at Black Rock, Dublin, Mrs. A. M. Kavanagh, the beloved mother of James P. Kavanagh, Shakespeare Hotel, Newtown. R.I.P.

WEISS.—December 25, at his residence, Leoma, Merton-street, Stanmore, Captain W. H. Weiss, in his 66th year.

## In Memoriam.

MURRAY.—George Murray, died 11th August, 1894. Elizabeth Rowat Murray, died 26th December, 1894. Thy will be done.

VAUGHAN.—In sad but loving remembrance of my dearly-beloved wife, Annie Vaughan, who departed this life December 26th, 1894. Inserted by her loving husband, Michael Vaughan. R.I.P.

VAUGHAN.—In loving memory of our loving niece, Annie Vaughan, who departed this life 26th December, 1894. Inserted by John, Patrick, and Anne Downey. R.I.P.

F. LASSETTER AND CO., Ltd.,

ESTBD. 1820.

SUPPLY

EVERYTHING

at

WHOLESALE RATES.

GOOD QUALITY OF EVERY ARTICLE GUARANTEED.

EVERY LINE A BARGAIN.

WE ALLOW

NO ONE TO UNDERSELL US.

THE LARGEST AND BEST BOUGHT STOCK IN SYDNEY.

F. LASSETTER and CO., SYDNEY and BRISBANE.

HARDWARE AND GENERAL MERCHANTS.

## Florists.

XMAS PRESENTS at SEARL'S.—Xmas Decorations. New Spanish Baskets, Fern Baskets, choice Drawing-room Plants, Bouquets, &c. New Flower Seeds to hand. 160 King-street. Tel. 1117.

XMAS DECORATIONS, Xmas Decorations.—Estimates given for decorations, floral designs, &c. Bouquets, Wreaths, Crosses, and Choicest Cut Flowers fresh daily. PEARCE BROS., 107 King-st., and 31 S. Ar. Tel., 1269.

JEAN and CO., Florists, 6 Hunter-st.—Table Decorations, Bouquets, Sprays, Wr'ths, and Crosses. Tel. 1225.

NEW SEEDS. JUST LANDED.

SPECIAL QUALITY.

PRIMULA. CINERARIA.
CARNATION, PICOTEE, FUCHSIA.

ANDERSON and CO., Seed Merchants, 216 and 218 Pitt-street.

ELECTROPLATING and REPAIRING.—Old Plated-ware made as good as new at moderate cost. Holdsworth, Macpherson, and Co., George-st., below Hunter-st.

BEST FISHING TACKLE

EASTWAY BROTHERS, 411 George-street.

## Shipping.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

The Royal Mail Steamships of the above Company will be despatched from Circular Quay (Macquarie Point) at 1 p.m., and from Melbourne and Adelaide on the following dates at NOON:—

FOR LONDON,

Touching at the usual intermediate ports en route.

| Steamer. | Tons. | Commander. | Sydney. | Leave Melbourne. | Adelaide. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1896. | 1896. | 1896. |
| *Parramatta | 6874 | F. Harris | Jan. 8 | Jan. 11 | Jan. 15 |
| Australia | 7000 | L. Reeves | Jan. 20 | Jan. 25 | Jan. 29 |
| Massilia | 5016 | R. Harvey | Feb. 3 | Feb. 8 | Feb. 12 |
| *Arcadia | 6362 | A. C. Loggin | Feb. 17 | Feb. 22 | Feb. 26 |

And thenceforward every alternate week.
* TAKING PASSENGERS FOR VENICE.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY TO LONDON:—
First Saloon ... £60 to £70
Second Saloon ... £35, £37, £40
Return Tickets ... £85 to £105

Passage-money can be paid here for passages from England.

For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices, corner Pitt and Bridge streets.
I. M. SHIELDS, Acting Agent.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

SYDNEY TO LONDON, via PARIS.

Steamers of 6500 tons, under postal contract with the French Government, calling at MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, ALBANY, MAHE, ADEN, SUEZ, and PORT SAID, will be despatched monthly as follows:—

| Steamer. | Command'r. | Sydney noon | Melbourne 1 p.m. | Adelaide 1 p.m. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AUSTRALIEN | Flandin | Dec. 28 | Dec. 31 | Jan. 2 |
| V. de la CIOTAT | Fiaschi | Jan. 27 | Jan. 31 | Feb. 2 |
| POLYNESIEN | Boulard | Feb. 27 | March 2 | Mar. 4 |
| ARM'D BEHIC | Poydenot | Mar. 27 | March 31 | April 2 |

Passengers booked to BOMBAY, REUNION, MAURITIUS, and EAST COAST OF AFRICA.

PASSAGE MONEY, £20 to £70, including table wines.

RETURN TICKETS, available for 9 or 12 months, at REDUCED RATES.—ENGLISH SPOKEN ON BOARD.

Passage Money can be paid here for passages from Europe. Liberal concessions to families.

Upon arrival at Marseilles, English interpreters meet the passengers for London and give them every assistance in landing and passing their luggage through the Customs, &c., and also accompany them to Paris and Calais.

N.B.—Passengers' luggage conveyed free of cost from Marseilles to London by steamer.

For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices, Queen's Corner, Pitt-street.
E. BLANC, Principal Agent.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

Passengers are carried by the IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL STEAMERS according to the requirements of the English Passengers Acts of 1855 and 1863 to:—
SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP, BREMEN, via COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, and GENOA.

Steamers from GENOA, NAPLES, or SOUTHAMPTON DIRECT to NEW YORK.

Steamers will be despatched as follows (if practicable):—

| Steamer. | Tons. | Leave Sydney 4 p.m. | Leave Melbourne. | Leave Ad'l'ide S'mph. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prinz-Regent Luitpold | 6700 | Dec. 30 | Jan. 4, 1896. | Jan. 8 |
| Oldenburg | 5318 | Jan. 27 | Feb. 1 | Feb. 5 |
| Gera | 5319 | Feb. 24 | Feb. 29 | Mar. 4 |
| Darmstadt | 5316 | Mar. 25 | April 1 | April 4 |
| Bayern | 5343 | April 22 | April 29 | May 2 |
| Prinz-Regent Luitpold | 6700 | May 20 | May 27 | May 30 |

Passage Money from £14 to £67 10s.

RETURN TICKETS AT REDUCED RATES.

Special facilities are afforded for bringing out relatives and friends from Europe by prepayment of passage-money.

FIRST-CLASS RETURN TICKETS BETWEEN SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, and ADELAIDE are interchangeable for Return by Rail or Sea.
J. MERGELL, General Agent, Exchange Corner, 63 Pitt-street.

STEAM TO LONDON.

The Fine Steamship URMSTON GRANGE, 8400 tons, C. S. Crichton master, will be despatched about 30th DECEMBER.

Splendid Accommodation for SALOON and SECOND-CLASS PASSENGERS.

For rate of freight or passage apply to
GIBBS, BRIGHT, and CO., 37 Pitt-street.

Wool received by FLOOD and CO., Limited.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Via QUEENSLAND PORTS and PORT DARWIN.

THE EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO.'S

Popular Steamship AIRLIE, 2400 tons, WINTHROP ELLIS Commander, will be despatched from the Company's Wharf, Miller's Point, SATURDAY, 4th JANUARY, 1896.

Full particulars upon application to GIBBS, BRIGHT, and CO., MANAGING AGENTS, 37 Pitt-street, Sydney.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL is now ready. Christmas Stories, beautiful Illustrations, and magnificent Coloured Supplement. Price, 6d. Order of all news agents, or direct Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

THE CROWD Crowding in Crowds to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

ORIENT LINE OF ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.

The following Royal Mail Steamships belonging to the ORIENT and PACIFIC COMPANIES will leave SYDNEY at 1 p.m. as under for LONDON (Tilbury), via Melbourne, Adelaide, Albany, Colombo (transhipping for all Indian ports), Suez Canal, Naples, and Gibraltar:—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| * OROYA | 6057 tons | E. E. Lavington | Dec. 30 |
| ORIENT | 5365 " | H. F. Inskip | Jan. 13 |
| ORMUZ | 6031 " | F. M. Tuke | Jan. 27 |
| OROTAVA | 5552 " | J. Linklater | Feb. 10 |

And Fortnightly thereafter.
* This steamer sails at 4 p.m.

PASSAGE MONEY—£70 to £15 15s.

Facilities are offered for bringing out friends and relatives from London by the prepayment of passage-money.

MANAGERS: F. GREEN and CO. and ANDERSON, ANDERSON, and CO., Fenchurch-avenue, London, E.C.

Full particulars on application to JOHN BELL, 43 Pitt-street. Managing Director in Australia.

TO GREAT BRITAIN AND EUROPE.

A. AND A. ROUTE.

ROYAL MAIL EXPRESS SERVICE.

Avoiding alike the heat of the Red Sea and the cold of Cape Horn.

Under contract with the Governments of New South Wales, New Zealand, and United States, the steamers of this line leave Sydney and Auckland for Apia (Samoa), Honolulu, and San Francisco every four weeks, as under:—

| Steamer. | Commander. | Sydney, 4 p.m. | Auckland, 2 p.m. | Arrive at 'Frisco. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MONOWAI | Carey | Jan. 20 | Jan. 25 | Feb. 13 |
| ALAMEDA | Van Oterendorp | Feb. 17 | Feb. 22 | March 12 |

Passengers booked to all the principal parts of EUROPE, UNITED STATES, AND CANADA AT LOWEST FARES, including special privileges.

TIME CARDS, Railway Maps, Guide-books, showing routes to all points, rates of passage, and all other information, on application at the Offices of the UNION STEAM SHIP CO. OF N.Z., Ltd., 15 Bridge-street; or Branch Passenger Office, Moore-street, near G.P.O.

UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, Limited, will despatch Steamers from their Wharves, Margaret and Sussex streets, as follows, weather and other circumstances permitting:—

NEW ZEALAND.

For AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, and BLUFF, thence to Hobart and Melbourne (transhipping to outports)—
S.S. ROTOMAHANA, THURSDAY, January 2, at 5 p.m.

For AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, and DUNEDIN (transhipping to outports)—
S.S. WAIHORA, WEDNESDAY, January 15.
S.S. WAKATIPU, WEDNESDAY, January 29.

For WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, and BLUFF, thence to Hobart and Melbourne (transhipping to outports)—
S.S. TALUNE, FRIDAY, December 27, at 3 p.m.
S.S. WAKATIPU, SATURDAY, January 4. (Does not proceed further South than Dunedin.)
S.S. HAUROTO, FRIDAY, January 10.
S.S. MANAPOURI, FRIDAY, January 17.
S.S. MARAROA, SATURDAY, January 25.

TASMANIA.

For HOBART DIRECT—
S.S. OONAH, SATURDAY, December 28, at noon. (See special advertisement.)

Passengers and Cargo booked through to STRAHAN.

For LAUNCESTON and N.W. COAST PORTS (Devonport and Burnie), via EDEN—
S.S. PUKAKI, FRIDAY, December 27, at noon.

No cargo received within one hour before sailing.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

For NUKUALOFA, HAAPAI, VAVAU (Tonga), APIA (Samoa), and SUVA (Fiji), via AUCKLAND—
S.S. OVALAU, about TUESDAY, December 31.

From MELBOURNE.

NEW ZEALAND PORTS and HOBART—
S.S. MANAPOURI, TUESDAY, December 31.

LAUNCESTON, EVERY FIVE DAYS.
DEVONPORT, BURNIE, and STANLEY, every THURSDAY.
STRAHAN (Zeehan Silver Fields), every TUESDAY.

WEST COAST SOUNDS EXCURSIONS.

The magnificent S.S. TARAWERA will make two trips to the world-famed West Coast Sounds of New Zealand during the present summer season, leaving Dunedin on or about 22nd January, and on or about 21st January for the second trip.

For full particulars apply at Company's Offices, 15 Bridge-street, or Branch Passenger Office, Moore-street, near G.P.O.

TASMANIA.

The Favourite Steamers OONAH and PUKAKI will be despatched at short intervals as under:—

S.S. OONAH, 1787 tons.

TO HOBART Dec. 28, Jan. 4, 11, and 18. Returning from HOBART Jan. 1, 7, and 14.

S.S. PUKAKI, 1500 tons,

TO LAUNCESTON and N.W. COAST PORTS (DEVONPORT, and BURNIE), via EDEN } FRIDAY, December 27, at noon.

For further particulars apply to UNION S. S. CO., 15 Bridge-street. Branch Office, Moore-street.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

The Splendid New Steamer OVALAU, 1250 Tons Register, Specially built for tropical running, will Leave Sydney about TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31.

For AUCKLAND, NUKUALOFA, HAAPAI, VAVAU (Tonga), APIA (Samoa), SUVA (Fiji), thence to Sydney.

The ROUND TRIP will occupy about 35 days.

SALOON FARE, £32.

For further particulars apply to UNION STEAM SHIP CO. OF N.Z., Ltd., 15 Bridge-street; or Branch Office, Moore-street.

ABERDEEN WHITE STAR LINE,

STEAM TO CAPETOWN AND LONDON.

The following magnificent steamers will leave SYDNEY for CAPETOWN, TENERIFFE, and LONDON as follows:—

| Name of Steamer. | Commander. | Tons Regr. | Leaves Sydney at 3 p.m. |
|---|---|---|---|
| ABERDEEN | A. T. Wills | 3700 | Jan. 31 |
| AUSTRALASIAN | T. F. Spalding | 3700 | Feb. 25 |
| DAMASCUS | A. H. G. Douglas, R.N.R. | 3730 | Mar. 27 |
| NINEVEH | N. Allan | 3900 | Apr. 30 |

All the above have splendid accommodation, and will carry a surgeon and stewardess.

Passengers by this route to London will avoid the heat of the Red Sea.

For freight and passage money apply to DALGETY and COMPANY, Limited, Agents, 1 Bent-street.

GULF LINE

STEAM to HAMBURG direct and LONDON.

Fine fast Steamship GULF OF MEXICO, 3082 tons, Captain W. WARDEN, will have prompt despatch.

For rates of freight apply to A. M'ARTHUR and CO., 15 Macquarie-place.

Cargo received at Admiralty Wharf, Woolloomooloo Bay.

FOR DUNKIRK, HAMBURG, and ANTWERP.

The Fine New Steamship WRAGGOE, 2645 tons, W. ROWE Commander.

This fine Steamer will leave here on the 31st instant for the above ports. Early application for space is necessary, as the bulk of her cargo is already engaged.

For rates of freight apply to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, Bridge-street; or DANGAR, GEDYE, and CO., Margaret-street } Joint Agents.

Wool received at Talbot and Co.'s stores.

STEAM TO AND FROM NEWCASTLE during XMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1895-6.

| Day. | Date. | From Sydney. | From Newcastle. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | p.m. |
| Thursday | Dec. 26 | Namoi 11 p.m. | Newcastle 11.30 |
| Friday | " 27 | Newcastle " | Namoi " |
| Saturday | " 28 | Namoi 11.30 p.m. | Newcastle " |
| Sunday | " 29 | | |
| Monday | " 30 | Newcastle 11 p.m. | Namoi " |
| Tuesday | " 31 | Namoi " | Newcastle " |
| Wednesday | Jan. 1 | Newcastle " | Namoi " |
| Thursday | " 2 | Namoi " | Newcastle " |

FARES:—Saloon, single 7s, return (available 2 months), 10s 6d, deck cabin berths 2s extra each way; Steerage, 4s each way.

*.* Perishables and live stock only received and delivered on Boxing Day.

F. J. THOMAS, Manager.

The Newcastle and Hunter River S.S. Co., Ltd. Offices: 147 Sussex-st. Wharf: Foot of Market-st.

THE NORTH COAST S. N. COMPANY, Ltd. Steamers leave CLARENCE WHARF, 3 Sussex-st., for CLARENCE RIVER—Kallatina, Saturday, 9 p.m. RICHMOND RIVER—Tomki, To-morrow, 8 p.m. MACLEAY RIVER—Burrawong, To-morrow, 11 p.m. From MARKET WHARF, foot of Market-street, for MANNING RIVER—Electra, To-morrow, 2 p.m. PORT MACQUARIE, BELLINGER—Rosedale, To-morrow, 4 p.m.

NOTICE.—EXCURSION TICKETS are issued by Steamers leaving between 13th and 31st December (inclusive), available for return within one month from the date of issue. RICHARD COOKE, Secretary.

RICHMOND RIVER.—S.S. OAKLAND, TO-MORROW, at 8 p.m., from Yeager's Wharf, Pyrmont.

IT was a great day for us when MAGIC CLEANERS Soap was invented. Bridget.

DANCE, SPORT, and PLAY. BONDI AQUARIUM, TO-DAY.

CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN R.M. LINE TO FIJI, HONOLULU, VANCOUVER, CANADA, UNITED STATES, and EUROPE, in connection with the famous CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

| R.M.S. | Tons. | Commander. | Leave Grafton Wharf, 1 p.m. |
|---|---|---|---|
| MIOWERA | 3500 | Jas. Stott | January 18 |
| WARRIMOO | 3500 | Chas. E. Bird | February 18 |

Thenceforward MONTHLY.

First and Second Class Accommodation unequalled.

Excellent Cuisine. Specially low through second-class rates to Europe. Cool voyage through the Tropics, stopping at Suva (Fiji Group) and Honolulu, the Paradise of the Pacific.

Passengers for Europe will find the voyage via Canada very enjoyable compared to the discomforting heat of the Red Sea and Suez Canal. The scenery over the Canadian Pacific Railway is unequalled in grandeur. Stop-over privileges allowed at the various points of interest, such as Banff (Canadian National Park), Niagara Falls, &c.

ROUND-THE-WORLD TOURS.—Exceptional privileges offered.

Railway Maps, Guide Books, rates of passage, and all other information apply to
HUDDART, PARKER, and CO., Ltd., Exchange Corner, 63 Pitt-street.

HUDDART, PARKER, AND COMPANY'S LINE.

Weather and other circumstances permitting.

MELBOURNE:

BURRUMBEET, TO-MORROW, FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER, at 5 p.m.

Electric Light installed throughout.
Hot and Cold Sea-water Baths.
Promenade Deck 200ft. long.
Saloon and Fore Cabin Stewardesses Carried.

RETURN TICKET, AVAILABLE FOR SIX MONTHS, TWO POUNDS TEN SHILLINGS.

SYDNEY TO HOBART DIRECT, by the STEAMSHIP TAMBO, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, at 4 p.m. OR ROUND TRIP SYDNEY TO SYDNEY, VIA MELBOURNE, LAUNCESTON, and HOBART, or VICE VERSA.

NEWCASTLE.

The Steamers of the Company run at frequent intervals.

FARES AND FREIGHTS AT LOWEST CURRENT RATES.

NEW ZEALAND.

FOR AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, and DUNEDIN, transhipping to other Ports.

| Ship. | Date. |
|---|---|
| ANGLIAN | WEDNESDAY, January 8, at 4 p.m. |
| TASMANIA | WEDNESDAY, January 22, at 4 p.m. |

For full particulars apply
HUDDART, PARKER, and CO., Limited.
Offices, Exchange Corner, 63 Pitt-street. Wharf, Foot Margaret-street.

COOLGARDIE.

A.U.S.N. CO., Ltd.

SPECIAL DIRECT TRIP FROM SYDNEY, without transhipment.

The Splendid Express Passenger Steamship BARCOO,

The Greyhound on the Australian Coast, will be despatched SATURDAY, 2 p.m., the 28th DECEMBER, for MELBOURNE, ALBANY, and FREMANTLE.

This Steamship's Passenger Accommodation is unrivalled.

Particulars on application to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Ltd., Agents, 10 Bridge-street.

A. U. S. N. CO., Ltd.

ROYAL MAIL COASTAL SERVICE.

From their Wharves, Lime-street.

| | |
|---|---|
| FOR MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE | Barcoo, Saturday, 2 p.m., Dec. 28; Waroonga, Tuesday, Dec. 31 |
| W. AUSTRALIAN PORTS | Waroonga, Tuesday, Dec. 31; Barcoo, Saturday, 2 p.m., Dec. 28; Waroonga, Tuesday, Dec. 31 (See Special Advt. below). |
| ESPERANCE BAY | Yaralla, Thursday, January 2 |
| BRISBANE | Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27; Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31 |
| MARYBOROUGH | Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27 |
| BUNDABERG, GLADSTONE | Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27 |
| ROCKHAMPTON | Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27; Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31 |
| MACKAY, BOW'N, TOWNSVILLE, via all ports, to COOKTOWN | Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31; Maranoa, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Jan. 7 |
| THURSDAY I'L'D, NORMANTON, BURKETOWN | Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31 |
| NOUMEA, SUVA, LEVUKA (FIJI), NUKUALOFA, HAAPAI, VAVAU (TONGA) | Victoria, Monday, 11 p.m., Dec. 30 |
| NEW HEBRIDES | Katoomba, Thursday, Jan. 9. |

The Accommodation of this Company's First-class Steamers is unequalled, and inspection is cordially invited.

LOWEST FARES AND FREIGHTS.

BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, Agents, 10 Bridge-street.

COOLGARDIE.

WEST AUSTRALIAN GOLDFIELDS.

A.U.S.N. CO., Ltd., Intend Despatching DIRECT FROM SYDNEY the following Favourite Ocean-going Passenger Steamships for FREMANTLE and GERALDTON, without transhipment, as under:—

BARCOO .. Sat'day, 2 p.m., 28th Dec.
WAROONGA Tuesday, 31st Dec.
CINTRA .. Wed., 8th Jan., 1896

via MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, and ALBANY.

LOWEST CURRENT FARES.

Particulars on application to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Agents, 10 Bridge-street.

BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, BRIDGE-STREET, SYDNEY.

INTENDING TRAVELLERS should call for sheet of WORLD'S TOURS and LOCAL EXCURSIONS.

Passengers Booked by Best Lines at Lowest Rates.

BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited.

THE ADELAIDE S.S. CO., Ltd.

GOLDFIELDS.

COOLGARDIE and MURCHISON.

REGULAR STEAMERS FOR ALL WEST AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

The favourite Passenger Steamer S.S. ADELAIDE will make a special trip to West Australian Ports, leaving Sydney on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31st,

TO ALBANY AND FREMANTLE, connecting with GERALDTON AND ALL NORTH-WESTERN PORTS.

SPECIALLY REDUCED RATES.

Passengers for Coolgardie booked through to Northam and Southern Cross at LOWEST POSSIBLE RATES.

For all particulars apply to G. S. YUILL and CO., Agents, 6 Bridge-street.

THE ADELAIDE STEAMSHIP COMPANY, Limited.

EXPRESS PASSENGER SERVICE. From Druitt-street Wharf.

| | |
|---|---|
| For MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, PORT PIRIE, and GULF PORTS. | S.S. ADELAIDE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, at 4 p.m. |
| For ALBANY and FREMANTLE. | S.S. ADELAIDE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, at 4 p.m. |
| For BRISBANE, MACKAY, TOWNSVILLE, and Ports North to CAIRNS. | S.S. FRANKLIN, SATURDAY, December 28, at noon. |

SPECIALLY REDUCED PASSENGER RATES.

WEST AUSTRALIAN GOLDFIELDS. SEE SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS ABOVE.

G. S. YUILL and CO., Agents, 6 Bridge-street.

DANCE, SPORT, and PLAY. BONDI AQUARIUM, TO-DAY.

THE HOWARD SMITH LINE.

TO ALL WEST and SOUTH AUSTRALIAN, VICTORIAN, and QUEENSLAND PORTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| FOR MELBOURNE | Peregrine, Saturday, Dec. 28, 1 p.m. Tyrian, Saturday, January 4, 12 noon. |
| ADELAIDE, PORT AUGUSTA, PORT PIRIE | Tyrian, Saturday, January 4, 12 noon. |
| ALBANY, FREMANTLE, GERALDTON | S.s. Gabo, leaves Melbourne Saturday, 28th instant. |
| BRISBANE, MARYBOROUGH, BUNDABERG, ROCKHAMPTON | Leura, Saturday, Dec. 28, 2 p.m. Barrabool, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 5 p.m. |
| MACKAY, TOWNSVILLE | Leura, Saturday, Dec. 28, 2 p.m. Peregrine, Saturday, Jan. 4, 2 p.m. |

Cargo for all ports received daily.

LOWEST CURRENT FARES TO ALL PORTS. RETURN TICKETS AVAILABLE for SIX MONTHS.
WM. HOWARD SMITH and SONS, Ltd.
Offices—67 York-street, between King and Barrack streets. Wharves—Foot of King-street.

BRISBANE AND QUEENSLAND PORTS.

S.S. LEURA will leave wharf, foot of King-street, SATURDAY, 28th instant, 2 p.m. Lowest Current Fares and Freights.

MELBOURNE.

S.S. PEREGRINE. This favourite passenger steamer will leave Wharf, foot of King-street, SATURDAY, 28th instant, 1 p.m. Lowest Current Fares and Freights.
WM. HOWARD SMITH and SONS, Ltd. Offices—67 York-street. Wharves, foot King-street.

WARNING.—Steamer Passage TICKETS issued by Companies belonging to the S.S. Owners' Association are NOT TRANSFERABLE, and attempts to improperly use such Tickets will be followed by confiscation of Tickets and prosecution.
A. B. COCKBURN, Secretary S.S. Owners' Association.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS.

ILLAWARRA S. N. COMPANY. WEATHER PERMITTING.

Wollongong, Kiama, Shoalhaven, Tues., Fri. Cargo only. Clyde River, Nelligen, Bateman's Bay, Friday, 10 a.m. Ulladulla, Tuesday, noon; Friday, 10 a.m. Merimbula, Eden, Bermagui, Monday, Tuesday, noon. Tathra, Pambula, Monday, Tuesday, noon.

MANLY. MANLY. MANLY.

3d RETURN 3d.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, 1895.

BOXING DAY and NEW YEAR'S DAY.

THE PORT JACKSON S.S. COMPANY, Limited, will run the whole of their Fleet AT FREQUENT INTERVALS, consisting of the following FIRST-CLASS SALOON STEAMERS:—

BRIGHTON, FAIRLIGHT, and NARRABEEN.

Also, the well-known Passenger Steamers, COMMODORE, BALMAIN IRRESISTIBLE, and PORT JACKSON.

TO and FROM MAIN MANLY WHARF AT SHORT INTERVALS.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is called to the SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATION of this Company's Saloon Steamers, which are unsurpassed by any other Ferry Steamers in Australasia.

REMEMBER!

THE PORT JACKSON STEAMSHIP COMPANY WAS THE FIRST TO REDUCE THE FARES.

3d RETURN 3d.

PORT JACKSON STEAMSHIP COMPANY, Limited.

MANLY. MANLY. MANLY.

THE VILLAGE BY THE SEA.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS FOR BOXING DAY.

Passengers by the CO-OPERATIVE S. FERRY CO. only are admitted FREE OF CHARGE to the

FAIRY BOWER PICNIC GROUNDS.

Hot Water on the Ground, Swings, See-saws, &c., &c.

3d RETURN FARE 3d.

Steamers will run every few minutes throughout the day. No Waiting, No Overcrowding by the CO-OPERATIVE CO.

Ten (10) Steamers engaged for BOXING DAY, including the favourites CYGNET, ADMIRAL, CONQUEROR, GOSFORD, MARRAMARRA, LEVERET, thus ensuring no inconvenience.

THE PEOPLE'S COMPANY Reduced the Fare and overthrew grasping Monopoly.

No. 5 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY, to THE MAIN MANLY WHARF.

BUSINESS AND EVENING TRIPS AS USUAL.

WATSON'S BAY.

TO-DAY (BOXING DAY) TO-DAY.

The Oldest, Prettiest, and Most Favoured of the many Spots in OUR BEAUTIFUL HARBOUR, where visitors have a larger choice of objects of interest than in any other Marine Suburb, among which are THE LIGHTHOUSE, THE FAR-FAMED GAP, THE RESERVE, and THE FORTIFICATIONS.

STEAMERS Leave WATSON'S BAY JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY, at SHORT INTERVALS DURING THE DAY.

RETURN FARE, 6d.

The Watson's Bay and S. Shore Steam Ferry Co., Ltd.

HUNTER'S HILL and LANE COVE RIVER STEAMERS LEAVE LIME-STREET, foot of Erskine-street, at 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, *12, 1.15, 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7.15, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15, 11.15.
FIG-TREE, HUNTER'S HILL, 7, 8, 8.50, 10, 11, 12 a.m., 1.15, 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15, 11.
SUNDAYS—LIME-STREET, 9, 10, 11, 12, 1 p.m., 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7.15, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15.
FIG-TREE, 8.45, 9.45, 11, 12, 1, 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7.15, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15.
* Saturdays, 12.15.
Picnic Steamers and Recreation Grounds for Hire.
Telephone No., 10, Hunter's Hill. N. JOUBERT.

P. R. S. AND T. COMPANY, Limited.

BOXING DAY.

STEAMERS leave for all Wharves to PARRAMATTA every hour from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. All Wharves to RYDE every hour from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m., and at 10.30 and 11.15 p.m.

FOR LONDON.

FOR THE MAY WOOL SALES.

The Clipper Ship INVERNEILL will have Prompt Despatch.

For rates of freight apply to GIBBS, BRIGHT, and CO., 37 Pitt-street.

WOOL RECEIVED by FLOOD and CO., Ltd.

WASHING Made Easy.—The Magic Cleanser removes everything, no matter what it is, in the shape of dirt.

DANCE, SPORT, and PLAY. BONDI AQUARIUM, TO-DAY.

MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
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MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA
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MYFA TEA
MYFA TEA.

THE ONLY REFRESHING and INVIGORATING DRINK in HOT WEATHER.

## Shipping.

BARQUE LEAHI.—Captain JOHNSEN, of the barque Leahi, will not be responsible for any DEBTS contracted by his crew without his written authority.

F. C. JANSON, Bird and Animal Dealer, Wholesale and Retail, 196a George-st. North.

BOATS to LET, all kinds, no extra for holidays. Vipond's Boatsheds, Rushcutter Bay.

PICNIC PARTIES.—S.S. THISTLE for Hire, certificate 290 passengers. Particulars F. Buckle, 4 Erskine-st.

OFF are we to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

## Tenders.

ARTISTS and PAINTERS.—If you want best quality Goods for Lowest Cost, buy from JAMES SANDY and CO., 271 and 330 George-street.

BOROUGH OF NARRABRI.

TENDERS FOR ELECTRIC-LIGHTING.

NOTICE is hereby given that the time for receiving TENDERS for Lighting this Borough with Electricity has been extended to SATURDAY, the 4th JANUARY, 1896.

Particulars can be ascertained on application to the undersigned. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
EDW. GUEST, Council Clerk.
Town Hall, Narrabri, 21st December, 1895.

CEMENT.—"Hemmoor" Brand. Each cask guaranteed to pass Government test. Always in stock. Sole Agents, SCOTT, SIBBALD, and CO., 20 Bond-street.

DAMPCOURSE, pure bitumen, portable rolls, cheaper, better than import. or slate. Asphaltum Co., Lime-st.

GALVANISED IRON.—"W.S. Crown" brand. Sole agents, Scott, Sibbald, and Co., 20 Bond-st.

IN THE ASSIGNED ESTATE OF H. WITHERSPOON, Shipchandler and Provision Merchant, NEWCASTLE.

TENDERS are invited and will be received by the undersigned up to the 31st day of December next, at noon, for the Purchase of the undermentioned Assets:—

STOCK-IN-TRADE. Newcastle.

| Lot | | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Blocks, Wood and Iron | 673 | 19 | 11 |
| 2. | Ash Oars, Mast Hoops, &c. | 27 | 7 | 9 |
| 3. | Paints | 84 | 3 | 2 |
| 4. | Oils | 46 | 19 | 4 |
| 5. | Ironwork, Ships' | 109 | 11 | 0 |
| 6. | Ships' Globes, Lamps | 101 | 5 | 4 |
| 7. | Flags and Bunting | 34 | 19 | 10 |
| 8. | Ropes, Canvas, Twine, &c. | 182 | 10 | 0 |
| 9. | Engineers' Goods | 57 | 2 | 3 |
| 10. | Ironmongery | 106 | 0 | 7 |
| 11. | Brushware, Baskets, &c. | 36 | 0 | 5 |
| 12. | Miscellaneous Shipchandlery | 146 | 4 | 3 |
| 13. | Bonded Goods | 59 | 0 | 2 |
| 14. | Grocery | 43 | 13 | 6 |
| 15. | Working Plant and Fittings | 66 | 0 | 0 |
| | | £1213 | 17 | 7 |

Tenders will be received for each lot separately, or for the whole in one lot.

The usual 10 per cent. deposit conditions.
The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
The stock has been carefully taken, and is in first-class condition.

Stock-sheets may be inspected and further particulars obtained at the offices of the undersigned, and at Scott-street, Newcastle.
FORD and TROUP, Accountants, 28 Castlereagh-street.
Sydney, 20th December, 1895.

PIG IRON, Bar Sheet, and Hoop Iron, in stock and to arrive. Scott, Sibbald, and Co., 20 Bond-st.

RACKAROCK.

95-99 Town Clerk's Office, Sydney, 21st December, 1895.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS will be received at this Office until 1 o'clock on THURSDAY, 9th January, for the Erection of a Drinking Fountain at the Saleyards, Flemington.

Plans and specification may be seen at the City Surveyor's Office.
HENRY J. DANIELS, Town Clerk.

TENDERS are invited by the Dubbo Refrigerating and Boiling-down Company, Limited, up till TUESDAY, 31st instant, for the SUPPLY of TALLOW CASKS for the year 1896.

Specifications to be seen at the Herald Office, and at the Company's Office, West Dubbo, where tenders are to be addressed.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
J. C. MACKLEY, Manager.

TENDERS are invited and will be received by us up to 4th JANUARY, 1896, for the Lease of ROLLER FLOUR MILLS, RYLSTONE.

The mill is fitted with Simon's system. Is a two-bag plant, in first-class order. Is 35 miles from any other mill. Fuller particulars on application to
T. M. HALL and CO., 58 York-street.

TINPLATES.—"Grafton," "Lydbrook," and "Castell" brands, in stock and to arrive.
SCOTT, SIBBALD, and CO., 20 Bond-street.

TENDERS are invited for Erection of five 4-storied Houses, Orwell-street, off Macleay-street, Potts Point, until 11th January. Plans, specifications, and all particulars with the Architect, at 72 Pitt-street,
FERDINAND H. REUSS, Jun., Architect.

TENDERS are invited for the Supply and Erection, near Tamworth, of one Water-Jacket Smelting Furnace capable of treating from 6 to 10 tons of copper ore per diem. Tenders addressed Copper, Box 37 P.O., Newcastle.

TENDERS Furnishing Wood and Carpenter work. Room 3, 452 Kent-st., 7 and 9 p.m. Open till Dec. 31.

TENDERS wanted for Carting Quantity Metal, Blackwattle Wharf to Stanmore. Apply 330 George-st.

TERRA-COTTA Cresting, Finials, &c., Baker's Oven Tiles, superior quality. Symons and Co., Fairfield.

G. E. CRANE and SONS, Marble Mantelpieces, Grates, Flooring and Hearth Tiles, Grates, Gaseliers, Globes, &c.; large assortment at lowest prices. Steam Marble Works, Showrooms, and Stores, 19 to 21 Pitt-st., Cir. Q.

GEORGE REID says he is not going to destroy the Magic Cleanser, mandate or no mandate.

## Meetings.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General MEETING of the Society will be held at Tattersall's-chambers, Hunter-street, Sydney, at 3 o'clock on FRIDAY, the 31st January, 1896.

BUSINESS:

To receive report of Balance-sheet; to elect a Patron, a President, 10 Vice-presidents, and 12 members of the Council, an Honorary Treasurer, and two Auditors; to fill Vacancies caused by the retirement of office-bearers by effluxion of time in accordance with rule No. 19.

The following gentlemen retire, but are eligible for re-election:—

President:
JOHN SEE, Esq., M.L.A.

Vice-presidents:
Hon. J. N. BRUNKER, M.L.A. — SAMUEL HORDERN, Esq.
Ald. SYDNEY BURDEKIN, Esq. — Hon. S. E. LEES, M.L.C.
PHILIP CHARLEY, Esq. — GEORGE LODER, Esq.
V. J. DOWLING, Esq. — JAMES MARTIN, Esq.
F. S. REYNOLDS, Esq.
EDWARD TERRY, Esq.

Council:
R. J. AIKEN, Esq. — R. H. JUDD, Esq.
A. BOWMAN, Esq. — H. F. MARR, Esq.
J. DALY, Esq. — W. F. MARTIN, Esq.
W. H. DEAN, Esq. — Hon. R. H. ROBERTS, M.L.C.
Major A. J. DODDS
FRANK FARNELL, Esq., M.L.A. — J. L. THOMPSON, Esq.
L. J. HARNETT, Esq. — F. A. WRIGHT, Esq., M.L.A.

Honorary Treasurer:
FREDERICK HARVEY, Esq., M.L.A.

Auditors:
Messrs. MILES and VANE.

Nominations of Office-bearers must be in the hands of the Secretary on or before THURSDAY, the 2nd January, 1896.
F. WEBSTER, Secretary.

MELBA is coming and all her linen must be washed with the Magic Cleanser.

THE CROWD Crowding in Crowds to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

PICTURE MOULDINGS

FOR SALE IN GILT, WHITE, SILVER, BRONZE, AND ALL WOODS, AT TRADE PRICES BY THE SINGLE LENGTH—9ft.

OLEOGRAPHS AND PICTURES OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, AT SALE PRICES.

You should obtain one of our SPECIAL CUT PRICE LISTS of WHITE LEAD, OILS, VARNISHES, &c., and compare before purchasing elsewhere.

LARGEST AND BEST ASSORTED STOCK OF WALL PAPERS.

POLAR REFRIGERATING PAINT reduces the Heat in Buildings from 40 to 50 per cent.

H. H. GROTH, JUN., AND CO.,

PLATE AND SHEET GLASS MERCHANTS, WINSOR AND NEWTON'S ARTIST DEPOT,

559 GEORGE-STREET, BRICKFIELD-HILL.

SAPHO SOAP,

THE MOST HYGIENIC AND BEST FOR THE SKIN. KEEPS IT FRESH AND CLEAR.

OF ALL CHEMISTS AND DRAPERS.

SHARK-FISHING.

A REWARD OF 5 GUINEAS is offered for the LARGEST SHARK captured between Xmas and Easter.

THE RELIANCE OIL COMPANY, as an incentive for the destruction of these Harbour Pests, and an encouragement to Local Industry, OFFER THE ABOVE REWARD for the CAPTURE and DELIVERY TO THEIR WORKS, by any Amateur or Fisherman within the colony, of the LARGEST MONSTER CAUGHT.

A FURTHER REWARD is also offered of £1 for SHARKS over 12ft. long delivered within the dates mentioned.

THE RELIANCE OIL COMPANY, REFINERS AND MANUFACTURERS of HIGH-CLASS LUBRICATING OILS, SYDNEY.

TELEPHONE, 1408.

CELLULAR UNDERWEAR,

the most HEALTHY and COMFORTABLE. New Price Lists and Pamphlets Post Free. CELLULAR CLOTHING DEPOT, 305 and 307 George-street, Sydney (nearly opposite Hunter-street).

## Public Companies.

AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY.

Established 1849.

Directors: The Hon. Sir J. P. Abbott, K.C.M.G., M.L.A., chairman; James R. Hill, Esq., deputy-chairman; J. T. Walker, Esq., A. W. Meeks, Esq., J.P., Thos. Littlejohn, Esq., Robt. J. King, Esq., Joseph Abbott, Esq.

General Manager and Actuary: RICHARD TEECE, F.I.A., F.F.A., F.S.S.

The only Australasian Life Office which declares a bonus every year.

Profit divided for the year 1894 (after making unusually large reserves) amounted to £426,021, yielding Reversionary Bonus of about £850,000.

Claims are payable immediately on proof of death and title.

ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDS TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

Accumulated Funds, Twelve and a Half Millions Sterling.
ROBERT B. CAMERON, Secretary.
Head Office, 87 Pitt-street, Sydney.

## Medical, Chemicals, &c.

W. MENTIPLAY and SON, 505½ George-street, Brickfield-hill, near Bathurst-street, have reliable preparations for all diseases of adults or children, no matter what the complaint may be. We remove hydatids without operation; cure erysipelas in 24 hours; remove all kinds of worms; cure ringworms in one minute; barber's itch, eczema, liver and kidney complaints, Bright's disease, inflammation of the bladder; cure nervous debility of male or female; cleanse the blood of all objectionable matter; cure marasmus, coughs, colds, bronchitis, sciatica, old sores, bad legs, neuralgia, and all other chronic diseases after all other treatment fails. Our Hair Restorer is the only real restorer ever offered.

STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS FOR CHILDREN CUTTING TEETH.

STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS. FOR USE OVER FIFTY YEARS.

STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS preserve a healthy state of the constitution during the period of TEETHING.

STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS relieve FEVERISH HEAT, FITS, CONVULSIONS, &c.

STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS. "JOHN STEEDMAN, Chemist, WALWORTH, SURREY," is engraved on the Government stamp affixed to each packet.

STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS.

In purchasing please pronounce STEEDMAN as it is spelt.

SOLD BY ELLIOTT BROS., SYDNEY.

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER.—Bugs, Fleas, Moths, Beetles, and all other Insects are destroyed by KEATING'S INSECT POWDER, which is quite harmless to domestic animals. It is perfectly clean in application. Ask for KEATING'S POWDERS. Sold (in tins) by all chemists.

ONE BOX of CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all ailments of the urinary organs in either sex (acquired or constitutional), gravel, and pains in the back. Sold in boxes, 4s 6d each, by all chemists and patent medicine vendors. Sole proprietors, the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Indigestion, palpitation, shortness of breath, flatulency, and costiveness are the forerunners of many disastrous diseases, all of which may be guarded against by an early and judicious use of these admirable pills, which remove every impurity. Sold at 78 New Oxford-street, London, and all druggists.

THE STOMACH exercises a great influence over our daily happiness.

Mrs. Hannah More says, in her quaint way, "There are only two bad things in the world, sin and bile." When in a perfectly healthy condition everything goes well.

ABRAHAM'S PILLS

never fail to remove the horrors of dyspepsia and indigestion, that are mainly owing to a stomach out of order.

Prepared at the Laboratory, 434 George-street, city, and sold everywhere in 1s, 2s, and 3s boxes.

COALMINERS.—Wash with the Magic Cleanser, and in two minutes you won't know yourselves.

## Machinery.

REFRIGERATING AND ICE-MAKING MACHINES. J. and E. HALL'S Patent Carbonic Anhydride Refrigerators for Chilling, Freezing, and Storing Meat, Butter, Fish, Game, &c.

Adopted by THE VICTORIAN, SOUTH AUSTRALIAN, and QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENTS. Also by the British and German Governments, Imperial Institute, London Docks, and the largest Freezing and Shipping Companies throughout the world.

SUITABLE FOR HOTTEST CLIMATE. Machines guaranteed.

SAFETY, ECONOMY, AND NO POISONOUS FUMES.

Sole Agent—MEPHAN FERGUSON, 159 Pitt-street, next G.P.O.

BUTTER FACTORIES.—Complete Refrigerating Plants, Cream-cooling Tanks, Water-cooling and Room-cooling Apparatus on the latest principle. EDMUND TAYLOR, Cold Storage Works, Rose-st., Camperdown.

TAYLOR'S Patent Refrigerating and Ice Machines, with latest improvements; no engine required. Fifty machines now working. Sole maker, EDMUND TAYLOR, Cold Storage Works, Rose-street, Camperdown.

ICEMAKING and REFRIGERATING MACHINERY on the simplest ammonia system; safe, economical, and efficient; especially suitable for butchers and butter factories. Laval and Alpha Cream Separators, Boilers and Engines, Steam Pumps, Bark Mills, Electric Lighting Plants. Waugh and Josephson, 342 Sussex-st., Sydney.

LEATHER BELTING, guaranteed superior quality. Low prices. Full stocks. J. C. LUDOWICI and SON, Limited, 169 Clarence-street.

ASSOCIATION Grounds.—Splendid sight, the snow-white Dresses of ladies, washed by the Magic Cleanser.

TO-DAY, TO-DAY, TO-DAY.—BONDI AQUARIUM is the place for fun.

FRY'S MALTED COCOA. BEST OF ALL.

THE BERRIMA DISTRICT FARM and DAIRY COMPANY, Limited, 664 and 666 Harris-street, Ultimo, are offering their choicest brands of country-made Creamery Butter in large or small quantities, and invite the inspection of the trade thereto. These celebrated Butters received three prizes at the recent R. A. Show, Sydney, and topped the market against all-comers for three successive years in the English market.
EDW. I. AIKEN, Manager.

MILK AND CREAM CANS. 18, 22, 24 gauge, CHEAP. LARGE STOCKS. MILNE BROS., 166 Sussex-street.

CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL IS NOW READY.

CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT COLOURED SUPPLEMENT.

PRICE, 6d. Order of all NEWS AGENTS, or direct HEAD OFFICE, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

## Public Notices.

IN THE ASSIGNED ESTATE OF H. WITHERSPOON, Shipchandler, Scott-street, Newcastle.

All PERSONS having CLAIMS against the above Estate are requested to send particulars thereof, addressed to the Trustees, care of the undersigned, on or before 1st JANUARY, 1896.
FORD and TROUPE, Accountants to the Trustees, FitzEvan-chambers, 28 Castlereagh-street, Sydney.
Sydney, 20th December, 1895.

THE VICTORIA INSURANCE COMPANY, Limited.

Offices—88 Pitt-street, Sydney.

NOTICE.

The OFFICES of the above Company will be CLOSED THIS DAY, 26th instant, for the Christmas Holidays.
FREDK. J. JACKSON, Resident Secretary.

SYDNEY PERMANENT FREEHOLD, LAND, and BUILDING COMPANY, Limited.

The OFFICE of this Company will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th instant.
By order of the Board.
J. Y. KERR, Manager.
Pitt and Bathurst streets, Sydney, 24th December, 1895.

METROPOLITAN MUTUAL PERMANENT BUILDING and INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION, Limited.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—The OFFICES of the above Association will be CLOSED THIS DAY, the 26th instant.
ROBERT W. CONWAY, Manager.

WIRE-SHUTTERS, and all kinds of Wirework, cheap. F. C. Janson, wireworker, 45 Pitt-st., Circular Quay.

JAS. H. ADGER, Dermatologist, treats successfully all diseases of the skin and scalp, loss of hair, premature blanching, and general cultivation and growth of the hair. Advice and Remedy, 10s 6d. Next Australia Hotel, Sydney.

DANCE, SPORT, and PLAY. BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

## Stock, Shares, and Money.

AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY.

LOANS ON MORTGAGE of FREEHOLD OR LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES, for a FIXED TERM OF YEARS OR REDEEMABLE BY INSTALMENTS.

RICHARD TEECE, General Manager.
ROBERT B. CAMERON, Secretary.
Head Office: 87 Pitt-street, Sydney.

I NEVER REFUSE

AN ADVANCE OF MONEY to any responsible person. Any business transacted guaranteed strictly private.
HENRY TAFT, 111 Elizabeth-street, near Market-street.
Telephone, 1773. Established 20 years.

MONEY LENT WITHOUT FEES OF ANY DESCRIPTION.

IN A FEW HOURS Advances can be made to any respectable person upon Household Furniture, Pianos, Horses and Vehicles (without pos.), or any tangible security.

I am the ACTUAL LENDER, employ no Agents, and I TRADE in my OWN NAME. Existing Loans paid off, and repayments to suit borrowers' convenience.
J. PHILLIPS, 118, 120 Market-street, city.

MONEY.—A PRIVATE LENDER will make immediate ADVANCES from £10 upwards to anyone requiring a strictly private Loan. Do not be allured by PUFF advertisements. As I advance my own MONEY, can do so at a LOW rate of interest and easy terms of repayment. Positively no fees or fines charged. Apply in confidence to S. F. PERKINS, Box 344, G.P.O.

NO LOAN OFFICE.

A PRIVATE GENTLEMAN is prepared to LEND MONEY on Furniture (without possession) or any security. Apply any evening to 52 PITT-STREET, REDFERN, between Cleveland and Redfern streets.

BORROWERS, CONSULT YOUR INTERESTS by applying to an old and respectable establishment, where a loan will be granted on the easiest terms. NO REASONABLE APPLICATION REFUSED. ORIGINAL MONT DE PIETE CO., Ld., 71 CASTLEREAGH-STREET. Established 1854.

YOUR MONEY DIFFICULTIES can be at once overcome by applying personally, or by letter, to LEMON and CO., 46 Elizabeth-street, between King and Hunter streets, who are the actual lenders. No bills of sale, publicity, fees, or delay. Advances on furniture, &c., without possession.

MONEY TO LEND on APPROVED FREEHOLD PROPERTY, City and Suburban. Also First-class Dairy Farms and Large Freehold Country Estates. Australian Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society, Ltd., 261 George-street.

MONEY ADVANCED PRIVATELY to respectable householders and business people upon all classes of security, including furniture (without possession). Low interest; repayments to suit borrowers.
F. FELS, Equitable-chambers, 295 Pitt-street, corner Park-street, 6 and 8, first floor.

MONEY ADVANCED on FURNITURE, DEEDS, INTEREST UNDER WILLS, or any Tangible Security. CHARGES FOR INTEREST CONSIDERABLY REDUCED. Easy Repayments. All BUSINESS ARRANGED on SHORTEST NOTICE, and STRICTLY confidential. REXON, 52 Elizabeth-st., n. Hunter-st., city.

MONEY TO LEND at LOWEST RATES, on approved freeholds. H. E. RUSSELL, No. 15 Norwich-chambers.

TO ASSIST, Not to Crush.—Private Gent. Advances MONEY on Furniture or any security (without pos.). No fees or loan office routine. Evenings, 6.30 till 9. 308 Bourke-street, Surry Hills, near Oxford-street.

CLERKS, Civil Servants, and others can obtain a LOAN privately from us, the actual lenders. NELSON and CALLAN, 318 George-street (over Freeman's).

WELL WORTH READING.

Loans on Furniture (without possession), Deeds, Jewellery. You can have a LOAN within FOUR HOURS. You can have it on your own TERMS. You can repay it as YOU LIKE. Your business will be kept STRICTLY PRIVATE. Save yourself MONEY and TROUBLE, and call at the ORIENTAL LOAN and MORTGAGE OFFICE, 13 Castlereagh-street, near Hunter-street. Estab. 12 years.

MONEY to LEND in large or small sums on city or suburban securities. Advances made on buildings in course of erection. RAINE and HORNE, 2 Hunter-street.

MONEY ADVANCES at low rate of interest on all kinds of security, MORTGAGE OF FREEHOLD, PERSONAL SECURITY, £100 to £20,000. WALTER J. REED, P.O.-chambers, 114 Pitt-street.

TRUST FUNDS to LEND, city or suburban securities. J. A. Dowling, solicitor, 29 O'Connell-st.

MONEY advanced on buildings in course of erection. Plans prep. Gibbings and Summerhayes, 191 Eliz.-st.

TRUST FUNDS for investment upon mortgage. Cope and King, solicitors, 14 Castlereagh-st., Sydney.

TO LEND, £5 to £500, personal security, repayable by instalments. J. G. Read, 256 Pitt-st., corner Park-st.

MONEY on Furniture or any security, no humbug, no publicity. F. A. Taylor, 60 Norton-st., Leichhardt.

A. J.S., E.S.A., and other Bank Deposits, Bought for cash. J. B. North and Son, P.O.-chambers, Pitt-st.

WANTED, Loan £20, interest £6, payable monthly, private person. Urgent, Herald Office, King-st.

END of the Servant Difficulty.—The Magic Cleanser Soap has settled it.

## Military Notices.

SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT.

PAY, Band and Headquarter Companies, for month and quarter ending 31st December, 1895, will be issued at Victoria Barracks on FRIDAY Next, 27th instant, at 7.30 p.m.
By order.
(Signed) J. G. LEGGE, Captain, Adjutant 2nd Infantry Regiment.

FRENCH CORSETS.—The P.D. CORSETS awarded highest honours wherever exhibited. Indisputably the best fitting. Obtainable from leading drapers everywhere.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HAYMARKET (ONLY).

WISHING YOU THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

ANTHONY HORDERN AND SONS, UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS, HAYMARKET (ONLY).

## Government Notices.

Department of Mines and Agriculture, Water Conservation, Sydney, 10th December, 1895.

ATTENTION is directed to Government Gazette, No. 822, of 10th December, 1895, inviting Tenders for the CONSTRUCTION and COMPLETION of new Channels, and Improvement of the GUNINGBAR, COOKAMURRA, and CROOKED CREEKS. Tenders will be received up to 11 o'clock a.m. 30th December, 1895, and must be addressed to the Under-Secretary for Mines and Agriculture, endorsed "Tender for Contract No. 47, Water Conservation." Plans and specifications can be seen and forms of tender obtained at the office of the Chief Engineer for Water Conservation, 29 Pitt-street, Sydney; and at the Courthouses at Dubbo and Warren. Every Tender must, as a guarantee of good faith, be accompanied by a preliminary deposit, calculated as follows:—For amounts up to £500 inclusive, £5; exceeding £500 and not exceeding £1000, £10; all sums over £1000, 1 per cent. on amount of tender up to a maximum deposit of £500.
(3180) SYDNEY SMITH.

Department of Mines and Agriculture, Sydney, 10th December, 1895.

APPLICATIONS received in the Department of Mines for permission to mine under roads, &c., &c., under the Mining Act of 1874, section 28.
SIDNEY SMITH.

Applications Nos. 754 and 755; date of applications, 27th November, 1895; date of receipt of applications, 27th November, 1895; name of applicant, F. Milford; description of land applied for, 754—Commencing at the north-east corner of block 8; thence to Observation Point; thence south to Government Wharf, taking in the whole of Careel Bay, being portion of Pittwater, parish Narrabeen, county Cumberland. 755—Part of Pittwater, south of application No. 754 of same date, exclusive of Scotland Island, parish Narrabeen, county Cumberland. Extent, 2000 acres each; purpose for which land is to be used, to mine for coal.

Application No. 752; date of application, 20th November, 1895; date of receipt of application, 20th November, 1895; name of applicant, W. Wiley; description of land applied for, Forest reserve No. 110, and reserve immediately south of same, parish Bulgo, county Cumberland. Extent, 880 acres; purpose for which land is to be used, to mine for coal and shale. (3183)

## Lost and Found.

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CRUETS, Teapots, Forks, Spoons, Butter Dishes, and all old Platedware Re-plated and made as new for mod. price. Holdsworth, Macpherson, and Co., George-st.

LOST, "that tired feeling" after drinking the genuine Apricot Brandy, at the Café Francais in George-st.

LOST, the morning Headache, now that I stick to Dickens' Whisky.

FOUND, that at Power's Hotel Dickens' Whisky and Sloe Gin (a novelty in liqueurs) is obtainable.

GIVE 'im poor Blackfellow bit MAGIC CLEANSER make 'im Whitefellow.

TO-DAY, TO-DAY, TO-DAY.—BONDI AQUARIUM is the place for fun.

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ONE HUNDRED PIANOS and Organs, half-price Cash or terms. Howard's, Queen-st., Woollahra.

PIANOS, £6 10s, £8 10s, £11, £16, £20, £22, cheapest in Syd. Fletcher, 106 Geo.-st. W., next St. Benedict's Ch.

PIANOS, Pianos, must be cleared; no reasonable offer refused. All prices. Powell, 57 Flinders-st.

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ARGYLE SCHOOL, ALBION-STREET, S.H. Conducted by Miss E. C. BAXTER. FAIRFAX PRIZES WON at the UNIVERSITY in 1876, 1877, 1880, 1890, 1891, 1893, 1894, 1898, 1889, 1895. DAY and RESIDENT PUPILS. NEW TERM JANUARY 20.

COLLEGE FOR YOUNG LADIES. THE CEDARS, Western-road, Parramatta. Conducted by Miss GULLY, late of Potts Point. STUDIES commence 15th JANUARY.

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H. G. RIENITS, Principal.

Mr. RIENITS will be at Mr. Thompson's Book Shop, 8 Erskine-street, Sydney, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 8th, 9th, and 10th January, 1896, from 2 to 5 p.m., to receive Pupils and make any necessary arrangements with parents. Letters addressed to The School will be promptly attended to.

OFF are we to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

## Building Materials.

F. J. MILLER and CO., 19 Duncan-street, off Bathurst-street, City STEAM SAW and JOINERY MILLS, are Selling all kinds of TIMBER, GALV. IRON, DOORS, &c., AT THE LOWEST PRICES IN SYDNEY, FOR CASH ONLY. SAWING and DRESSING done for the Trade.

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## Amusements.

(Continued from Page 8.)

UNITED FRIENDLY SOCIETIES OF NEW SOUTH WALES DEMONSTRATION and ART UNION.

Under the Patronage of His Excellency Lord HAMPDEN and the Hon. the PREMIER and MINISTRY of N.S.W.

To be held at the AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GROUNDS, MOORE PARK, on BOXING DAY, 26th December, and SATURDAY, 28th December, 1895.

£1000—PRIZES FOR ART UNION and SPORTS—£1000.

BICYCLE RACES! BICYCLE RACES!

On the splendid New Track specially laid for the occasion. The Finest Track in the Colonies.

ALL PAST RECORDS ECLIPSED.

RUNNING, WALKING, OLD BUFFERS' RACES. TUGS OF WAR

DANCING IN HUGE PAVILION.

TICKETS for Admission and Art Union, 1s.

Two children under the age of 12 years admitted on adult ticket with chance of Art Union. JAS. FINCH, Gen. Sec.

UNITED FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' DEMONSTRATION.—All Members of the No. 1 Old Protestant Alliance Friendly Society are invited to join grand procession, to start from Martin-pl., 9 to-day. G. Stedman, pres.

BONDI AQUARIUM GROUND. The Southern half of this ground being private property, the owner will not be responsible for any accidents that may occur to trespassers on Switchback Railway, or any portion of said ground. DAVID J. G. FLETCHER, 82 Carrington-street, Wynyard-square.

RANDWICK RACES.—Country Visitors are reminded that the Leger Stand commands a splendid view of the races, and that the lawn in front for promenading is now at its best. Admission only 2s. Take the road to the right after entering front gates.

ROSEBERY PARK RACING CLUB. PONY and GALLOWAY MEETING, TO-MORROW, FRIDAY, December 27. First Race to start at 2.30 p.m. SPECIAL TRAMS will leave Bent-street direct to the Racecourse Gates as follows:—12.5 p.m., 1.0 p.m., 1.15 p.m., 1.22 p.m., 1.40 p.m., and 2.6 p.m. Also 1.15 p.m. from Railway Station, Redfern. Fares, 6d. Special 'Buses leave town every few minutes. THOS. S. DONNELLAN, Secretary. Tattersall's Club-chambers, Pitt-street.

CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL IS NOW READY. CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT COLOURED SUPPLEMENT. PRICE, 6d. Order of all NEWS AGENTS, or direct. HEAD OFFICE, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND. N.S.W. JUNIOR CRICKET ASSOCIATION. SYDNEY JUNIORS v. NORTH COAST DISTRICT. BOXING DAY, 26th December, and SATURDAY, 28th December. GATES opened 26th at 9.30 a.m.; on 28th at 1 p.m. GAME starts 26th at 10 a.m.; on 28th at 2 p.m. ADMISSION, 6d to Ground; 6d extra to Grand Stand. MEMBERS must produce their tickets at the gates. By order of the Trustees. S. H. FAIRLAND, Secretary. Office—56 Hunter-street.

TRADE MARK. EASY CHAIR SOAP, for General Purposes. LIGHT OF AUSTRALIA SOAP, to do the LACES AND CURTAINS FOR XMAS. EASY CHAIR BLACKING to SHINE the BOOTS.

GRAND HOLIDAY SOCIAL, LEIGH HOUSE, BOXING NIGHT, 8 to 12. BOXING NIGHT. Boxall's Band. Refreshments. Select Company. DOUBLE TICKETS, 2s 6d. A most enjoyable dance.

GARDINER'S Strictly select Holiday Dancing Assembly at Mortlake THIS DAY. Admission, 1s. First-class Luncheon. Ballroom dancing only. Clarke's String Band. Boats foot King-st. every hour. Wet or fine.

DANCING TO-NIGHT. HUGHES and SMITHERS' GRAND HOLIDAY ASSEMBLY. I.O.O.F. Temple. Admission, 2s.

DANCING.—Mayfield Club, Boxing Night, Grand Holiday Social, 8 till 12; 1s 6d; ladies inv. 251 Crgh.-st.

DANCING.—Holiday Assembly To-night, 8 to 12, spl. floor, &c. Surreyville, Newtown-rd., op. University.

DANCING To-night.—Walton's Grand Holiday Assembly To-night. Surreyville, Newtown-rd., op. Univ.

ODDFELLOWS' Hall, Wilson-st., Newtown.—Gardiner's Social To-night, 8 till 12. Dble. Tickets, 1s 6d.

RANDWICK Races, Randwick Races, THIS DAY.—Entrance to Leger, Lawn and Stand, 2s.

ODDFELLOWS' Temple.—Grand Social by Miss Lacy to her pupils and friends To-night, 8. Db. Tk., 2s 6d.

SYDNEY to Jenolan Caves, Combination Ticket only. Cooper's Booking Office, 1a Hunter-st. 70s return.

COOK'S EXCURSIONS to Jenolan Caves, Hawkesbury River, Illawarra District, &c. Tickets, 4 Hunter-st.

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NEWPORT HOTEL, prettily situated, lovely ground, first-class accommodation, liberal cuisine, ev. comfort for visitors. Luncheon, 1s 6d, prov. on arrival steamer Boxing Day. Best brands Wines, Spirits. S. Greig, prop.

RANDWICK RACES TO-DAY.—Persons already on the flat wishing to enter Leger Reserve and Stand can do so by means of the turnstile opening on to the course.

JENOLAN CAVES.—Round Trip, rail, accom., buggies, 60s. Davis, Tourist Agency, 108 Pitt-st., op. G.P.O.

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RANDWICK, BOXING DAY.—Leger Reserve and Stand, seating accommod. for thousands. Admis., 2s.

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## Houses and Land for Sale.

FIFTEEN SHILLINGS per foot is the upset price of the HAMPDEN ESTATE, Croydon, adjoining the Western Suburbs Cottage Hospital. Sale next SATURDAY. ERNEST BROUGHTON, 250 Pitt-street, Auct.

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S. RITCHIE, House and Estate Agent, Stanmore-road, Petersham, has COTTAGES, Houses for SALE and to LET, Stanmore, Petersham. Great bargains offered. Kindly call at once. Drive to inspect.

MOUNT VICTORIA.—The GRANGE, with 10 acres of land, for SALE, price £1750. House alone cost £2000. Apply RICHARDSON and WRENCH, Pitt-street, Sydney.

FOR SALE, FARM, 240 acres, House, plenty of water, good grass land, £250. Write to No Tax, Guyra.

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CHINA and JAPAN.—The Magic Cleanser would have washed out the Japan black instantaneously.

CLAIRVOYANCE.—Mrs. Sullivan, to-day, 11 to 9, 2s 6d. Public circ., Frid. Evg., 8, 1s. 22 Forbes-st., Ntwn.

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HARRY.—Meet me at the Cafe Francais, George-st., this afternoon, and have a glass of Dickens' Whisky.

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TICKETS, boat, rail, anywhere, wanted; also sell cheap, exchange. Davis, 108 Pitt-st., opp. G.P.O.

TICKETS, reduced rates, to all parts Victoria, Queensland, N. Zealand, Europe, &c. Firkins, 135 King-st.

USE ONLY TAYLOR BROS.' JAMS AND MARMALADE.

## Business Announcements.

A. M.P. LIFE OFFICE.—Insure this month and secure 1895 Bonus. J. B. Youdale, agent, 108 Pitt-st.

DYASON BROS. and JOHNSON, Jam Manufacturers Young-st., Annandale. Telephone No. 39, Petersham.

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## Businesses for Sale.

COUNTRY NEWSPAPER FOR SALE. For SALE, a Weekly NEWSPAPER, published in one of the most prosperous districts of New South Wales. Satisfactory reasons given for selling. For full particulars apply Beta, Herald Office.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WINES.—Frontignac, Muscadine, Port, &c. H. S. Bird and Co., Macquarie-place.

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Country Visitors, by purchasing your requirements from us you will save your Travelling Expenses. Five Pound Bales we forward all carriage paid. £2 Parcels, carriage paid to nearest Railway Station or Wharf.

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Those who have taken this medicine are amazed at its wonderful influence. Sufferers from any form of bronchitis, distressing cough, difficulty of breathing, hoarseness, pain or soreness in the chest, experience delightful and immediate relief, and to those who are subject to colds on the chest it is invaluable, as it effects a complete cure. It is most comforting in allaying tickling and irritation in the throat, and giving strength to the voice, and it never allows a cough or asthma to become chronic. No house should be without it, as, taken at the beginning, a dose is generally sufficient, and a complete cure is certain.

Prepared only, and sold wholesale and retail, by the proprietor, W. G. HEARNE, Chemist, Geelong, Victoria. To be obtained in bottles, small size 2s 6d, large 4s 6d, from chemists and medicine vendors.

THE AQUATIC SPORT, ROWING.

SYDNEY MAIL.

The series of descriptive illustrated articles on the leading and most popular Sports and Pastimes of the day, giving practical instructions in the same, are continued this week.

The subject of the present week's article:

THE ART OF SCULLING, by "TRIDENT."

ILLUSTRATED BY PHOTOS SPECIALLY TAKEN FOR THE SYDNEY MAIL.

## THE BETROTHAL OF PRINCESS MAUD OF WALES.

"No objection is possible on public grounds to the betrothal of the Princess Maud of Wales to Prince Carl of Denmark, and consequently we congratulate the Royal House on an event which gives them pleasure." That, as it seems to us, is a more becoming expression of the general feeling at the recent announcement than the torrent of gush in which most of the newspapers have indulged. The heart of the nation is not "deeply stirred;" there is no new "link" forged between Great Britain and Denmark; and the public is not delighted to hear that the arrangement is a love-match, for the simple reason that it neither knows, can know, nor ought to know, whether that statement is true. All that it really knows is that there is about to be an addition to the already numerous class of married Royalties, which threatens within the next 50 years to create a new caste of nobles whose position in Europe will be socially most curious and anomalous. The Royal Houses used to tend to die out, but of late years they have multiplied until their scions are now numbered by scores, and in 1950 will probably be more numerous than the whole body of the British nobility. They have benefited, first of all, by the immense improvements in hygiene, which have made even palaces healthy; they have been compelled, by opinion, to give up forming irregular connections—there is no *maîtresse en titre* left in Europe—and they rear their families with as much care as the members of any other class. Consequently, there will soon be in Europe a whole caste of persons claiming to be the heads of society who are not nobles, who have no duties, who can perform no work outside the army and navy, and who will have quite inadequate means of support. Apart from occasional impediments of creed not felt by all the families, they can all marry each other; but though they assert a technical equality, they are not really equal, any more than British "Peers" are, who make of that equality their title and distinction. There are old Royal families and new Royal families—the oldest, if mothers are considered as close to their children as fathers, being our own, which has been Royal since Cerdic, who reigned in Wessex 1400 years ago—"great" Royal families and little Royal families, Royal families which are exceedingly rich—the richest was recently the Catholic branch of the Hohenzollerns—and Royal families which, like our own, are exceedingly poor. There are, too, families which, like the Bernadottes, Obrenovitchs, and Montenegrins, are only three-quarters Royal, being though sovereign without the 16 quarterings, and families only half-Royal, like the Leuchtenbergs and Battenbergs, because they spring from families grudgingly admitted by the two or three crowned heads who settle such questions to be admissible, but not quite admitted into the sacred circle of the "ebenbürtig." Old or new, however, powerful or feeble, rich or poor, wholly Royal or three-quarters Royal or half-Royal, they all alike claim precedence of the highest nobles; they all exact a punctilious and most inconvenient social deference; and they all do nothing, or rather, to be fair, are forbidden to do anything which might justify their excessive claims. They may, it is true, command armies; but when the Duke of Cambridge resigns there will not be a Commander-in-Chief, or a working Admiral, or a Premier, or a Chief Justice, or an Archbishop, who, not being a Sovereign, still springs from one of the Houses now occupying thrones. (Prince Hohenlohe, who represents a mediatised House, is, we suppose, "ebenbürtig," and counted within the caste, but his family ceased to reign three generations ago, and no longer claims a crown.) They have absolutely no place in politics; retain but two privileges, exemption from arrest and from the obligation to fight duels; and but for a very singular fact would be absolutely forgotten. For some reason not intelligible, except upon Mrs. Oliphant's theory that rank has a mystical influence upon opinion, the European public chooses to be interested in these personages, insists upon learning what they are doing, and attributes to their flittings about Europe—they are bored to death, and consequently restless—an importance which they do nothing and can do nothing to deserve.

The existence of such a caste will be noted by the future historian as one of the least explicable social phenomena of the nineteenth century, and it is difficult not to wonder when one reads of their marriages, what the future of their children and grandchildren will be, what place, that is, a thousand or twelve hundred "Royalties" will take in the social system of a world which is, we notice, beginning to accord the highest position even to Royalties in black skins, in yellow, and in brown. They will not, we fear, sink quietly into the mass of the community, for the community will not so far forget them, and the Sovereigns have an idea that unless they protect their relations, however distant, their own claims, which they all describe to themselves as pedigree claims, will, in some degree, be shaken. They cannot become mere nobles, and do the work of nobles, though the mediatised Princes are doing this, because the community entertains a jealousy which keeps them out of politics, Parliament, or the Civil Services, and they will not let themselves die quietly out. On the contrary, they nearly all marry, and many of them have families as large as those of curates or Irish Peers. And at the same time they cannot remain as they are, for if they do they will be completely impoverished, and our grandchildren may live to see villages full of royal blood, just as there are said to be villages in Gallicia, where every householder not a Jew or a foreigner is of undoubtedly noble strain. The impossibility of maintaining entire clans of Royalties, with their necessity for attendants, and carriages, and seclusion from the herd, will soon force the heads of the great Houses to alter their family laws and etiquettes, and even it may be the Constitutions of their States; and that alteration can only take one line. The Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of Germany, the Emperor of Russia, the Sovereign of Great Britain, and the King of Italy must in the end agree to decree or legislate that no person more than six, or eight, or ten steps from a throne shall be accounted Royal, shall be entitled by blood to any privilege, or shall be accorded by the etiquette of Courts any special right of precedence. If the outsiders happen to be created nobles, they shall be nobles merely like any others, and shall rank from the date of their creations, as the Duke of Beaufort or Lord Elgin do, though they spring in a way from lines that have been Royal. They shall receive no money, and shall be in fact, in everything except their pedigrees, which are beyond control, members of the ordinary community—men like the Swiss nobles, some of whom are as old as their own hills, yet all of whom are in title, as well as privileges, simply commoners. It is, we fancy, certain that the three Emperors and two Kings could do this, and that their action would be effectual, the minor Princes and the communities of Europe at once following suit. They could, in fact, reduce the Royalties to the position occupied in England by a few families—the Tollemaches of Helmingham used to be one, and the Malets are another—who are entirely "people," though on the Continent they would be recognised as exceptionally noble. Of course, such a decree, which ought, if it is to be perfectly effective, to be European, would be accompanied by another relieving all the disinherited of all disabilities, whether derived from law, custom, or the etiquette of Courts. The members of the caste would then be compelled to fend for themselves, and either rise in the professions, as the Duke of Berwick did, or the cosmopolitan "Eugénio von Savoi" did, or sink among the ruck as "John Orth" tried to do, or, like nearly ruined English nobles, make the capture of great heiresses, in England, the United States, or Spanish-America, a profitable profession. Disinherited Princes would have great advantages in that career, as they would be considered so romantic; while disinherited Princesses would be eagerly sought by the greater nobles, who like, when not driven desperate by want of money, to secure for their children a step upward in the ladder of pedigree. The families thus enriched or ennobled might produce some specially valuable citizens. The effect of pedigree is a great puzzle, because careful attention to it seems to refine some families without in the least refining others—a dozen castes in India are equally old and careful of descent, yet only the Brahmins and Kshatryas are clearly aristocrats—but if there is any truth in heredity the descendants of the reigning houses, once compelled to exert themselves, should be men and women of special force. Those Houses have kept at the top of the world for nearly a thousand years. The objection that they have intermarried too much, even if it is true, which is doubtful, except where some taint has entered the blood, would disappear in two generations of plebeian marriages, and the consciousness of ancestry does not of necessity weaken character. We doubt if the Popes have as a body been abler men than the Hohenzollerns, and the Popes have been the picked men of a priesthood counting thousands, and have had as many opportunities of action and of displaying themselves as any line of Kings. The cadet Princes and Princesses might under such a system become useful leaders in the nations and in society, whereas at present they threaten to become in another half-century a political embarrassment and a social nuisance.—*Spectator.*

## THE NEW COLONIAL POLICY.

### WHAT IT IS TO BE.

*(Pall Mall Gazette.)*

Mr. Chamberlain's tenancy of the Colonial Office seems destined to be marked by a policy of singular activity. There can be little doubt that a large interest was aroused by the announcements he made after his appointment and during the general election. Many people are of opinion that his attitude towards the colonies and his promises in regard to the extension of trade were responsible for a certain proportion of the support given to the Unionists in that critical time. The Unionist Government came in with a free hand with a mandate, to use a cant Radical phrase, to do what seemed good in its eyes. The country wanted peace and rest after the wearisome distractions of an invertebrate party. It wanted no problems, of which it is as tired as it is of the New Woman, but rather a policy directed towards the material improvement of trades and classes. Very few people understand the success or failure of a foreign policy, but the fact that so many millions are added to the trade of the country is patent and appreciable by all. Mr. Chamberlain, with his shrewd business sense and his invaluable faculty of organisation, sees his way to confer this benefit on his country. If he does so, we may safely say that the country will do well by him and the Government of which he is a member. Even the fierce Radicals, who have antagonised the man for the last 10 years, are now scrutinising his plans with interest, and if his colonial policy be genuinely beneficial they will not dare to assail it. Let us then examine shortly what it is.

In the speech which Mr. Chamberlain delivered the other evening he made no direct explanation of his policy. It was obvious that he himself had not lost faith in Imperial Federation. Lord Rosebery played with the idea out of office, and after a systematic course of philandering for several years finally threw it up, and chilled his followers with the cynical profession that his faith had merely been sentimental. There is little doubt that this lack of good faith on his part cast back the project 10 years in time. We are glad to see that Mr. Chamberlain, beginning very quietly, is of quite another mind. But he is wise enough to start warily. Up to the present his aim is merely to extend the influences of British trade by opening up the Crown colonies. Mr. Chamberlain refuses to consider the self-governing colonies for the moment. It is the Crown colonies alone that concern him. But here there is work enough to his hand. The theory of the new policy is merely this. Suppose a landlord to possess in some remote corner of Wales or Scotland a property rich in minerals, in soil, or in some natural products; and suppose these products were unmarketable because they were too far removed from the centres of distribution. A wise man would determine to expend a certain sum in developing this property. He would build railways, or make roads, or construct canals. In a word, he would sink capital against a future return. This has been done, for instance, by the Dukes of Devonshire, at Eastbourne, and by other landowners in other places. To apply the illustration. England possesses valuable properties in her Crown colonies. Some of them are rich in minerals, others in timber, others, again, in fertile soil. To develop these should be the aim of a provident Government. The colonies themselves are too little known, and are too sparsely populated to be able to shift for themselves. Mr. Chamberlain believes that whenever a good case is made out the Home Government would be justified in spending money to develop the resources of a colony. He has, we understand, at least three colonies in his mind for which subsidies will be asked of Parliament next year. No doubt a section of Radicals will attack this policy, but it is difficult to see upon what ground they will go.

For Mr. Chamberlain's policy is that of the business man, and is wholly based upon commercial principles. If, for example, a colony, A, has rich resources, he proposes to borrow money, say at 3 per cent., in the market, and to send this money to the colony for public purposes—the construction of roads, railways, or irrigation works. The money will be lent at 5 per cent., and the security will be the works themselves. No doubt a short time would elapse before an actual return; but a wealthy country can afford to bury a small portion of its capital for a time, with the prospect of an excellent return ultimately. We repeat that Mr. Chamberlain has already settled upon three such colonies for which Parliament will be asked to grant subsidies next session. The West African colonies, which have lately been in evidence, are not quite in the same case. As a matter of fact they can provide, and are providing, their own money, and all the Imperial Government is doing is to authorise the construction of the railways in Lagos and elsewhere. The Colonial Secretary is of opinion that such a policy as is here shadowed would result in the extension of English trade by several millions. Not only so: the issue would be twofold. In the first place the Crown colonies would be materially benefited, and opened up as districts for emigrants; in the second place the stimulus given to trade would go a long way towards the solution of the unemployed question. Many of our Crown colonies hang to us by the slightest thread. It is true that we are in some difficulty with Venezuela over Guiana, but outside that fact, Guiana knows nothing of the mother country. The Crown colonies have been asking for years if they belonged to us, and if we took any interest in them. They have been abandoned to their own resources, and unless either public or private enterprise develop them they will fester in their isolation till the crack of doom.

The natural objection will be this: that private enterprise has been sufficient in the past, and ought to be sufficient in the future. But will any one say that Western Australia, for example, would not have been better off to-day if the Imperial Government had taken that colony in hand energetically 10 years ago? She has only begun to move since she obtained representative Government, and precisely because public interest can achieve what all the private interest in the world cannot. In the same way the Imperial Government could do in East Africa, and particularly Uganda, what the British East Africa Company have not the heart to do. The fact is that private people are not all millionaires, and want some immediate return for their outlay. Whereas a country, and more especially a wealthy country such as England, can afford to make its accounts against the future. It is short-sightedness, such as prompts these narrow objections, that has militated against the proper expansion of England. We have our Manchester school still with us, only now they call themselves "Democrats," and fail to see that the wider the territory brought under British trade, the more prosperous will be the democracy they profess to love. We do not pretend to be in the secrets of the Colonial Office, but there are colonies, and to spare, for Mr. Chamberlain's new work. Those that suggest themselves are British North Borneo, the Straits Settlements, Bechuanaland, the West African Settlements, Zambesia, Zanzibar, British Guiana, Honduras, and the West Indies, New Guinea, and Fiji. A glance through any accredited book of statistics will reveal the possibilities of these properties. We need take no other example than that of New Guinea, which, of course, we do not claim as being in the scope of Mr. Chamberlain's coming campaign. We have held a third of New Guinea since 1887. It consists of 90,000 square miles, which is not very far short of the acreage of the British Islands. There are a hundred (or so of) white people on its shores; and not one step has been taken in developing a country abounding in natural riches. Timber is everywhere, and the soil will grow all tropical products in plenty, while in the higher altitudes Europeans might live and pursue their native avocations as comfortably as in Kent or Norfolk. If Western Australia has been our latest colony, it is certain that New Guinea will be our next; and we trust that Mr. Chamberlain will assist the evolution.

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Harper, professor in Ormond College, Melbourne, is the author of the new volume of the Expositor's Bible, *The Book of Deuteronomy* (Hodder and Stoughton).

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## MONTE CARLO AS IT IS.

It is the fashion, writes Herbert Vivian in *The National Observer*, to talk a great deal about Monte Carlo and the game of roulette, but, "between you and I," as poor Randolph Churchill used to say, I believe very few people know much about them, and as for the general reader he obviously knows nothing at all. So let us insult his intelligence by describing the method of play.

To begin with, picture to yourself a disc with 37 compartments in a cylinder. The disc is spun on a pivot in one direction, and an ivory ball is whirled in the opposite direction. The ball ends by lodging in one of the compartments. These are red and black alternately, and bear each a number from zero to 36. When the spinning is at an end, an official announces the number in whose compartment the ball has rested, and whether the number is red or black, odd or even, *passe*, or *manque*. *Manque* means the first 18 numbers, *passe* means the remaining numbers: 19 to 36. The numbers are not in their consecutive order in the cylinder, but familiarity breeds a perfect knowledge of the position of every one of them. A habitué can recite the cylinder to you as readily as a sailor can box the compass. On either side of the cylinder is stretched a green cloth, round which the players are seated. Each cloth is marked in squares, one for each number. Zero is allotted a larger space than the others, and is nearest to the cylinder. The other numbers, three abreast, occupy the centre of the cloth, and there are also compartments for red, black, odd, even, *passe*, *manque*, the dozens and the columns. The dozens, you will understand, are the groups of numbers 1 to 12, 13 to 24, and 25 to 36 respectively. The columns are the rows of 12 numbers taken in files. The first column, for instance, embraces the numbers 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, and 34. Such particularity is made necessary by reason of the surpassing stupidity of the organisers.

Now as to staking. You place your money on a single number *en plein* and you receive odds of 35 to 1. Or you place your money on the line separating two numbers, which are neighbours on the cloth, and if either of your numbers win, you are paid 17 times your stake. This is known as staking *à cheval*. Or you stake on the various border lines of the procession of numbers, which I described as proceeding up the cloth three abreast. In that case you are backing the adjacent group of three numbers—1, 2, 3; or 7, 8, 9; or 34, 35, 36; or another, as the case may be. This is called a *transversale pleine*, and if one of your three numbers win, you are paid 11 times your stake. Or you stake on a *carré*—that is to say, on one of the points where four numbers meet on the cloth. 1, 2, 4, 5 form a *carré*; so do 13, 14, 16, 17. If one of your four numbers win you are paid eight times your stake. Or you stake on the point where two *transversales pleines* meet. The point of union of numbers 12 and 15, for instance, is the place to stake when you want to back the six numbers 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and the odds are 5 to 1. This is called a *transversale*. You must take care to place your money exactly on the point, as if you push it on to the line between numbers 12 and 15 you will be *à cheval*, and back only two numbers. For the groups of 12 numbers—dozens or columns—the odds are 2 to 1. For the even chances, which comprise 18 numbers—all the red or all the even numbers for instance—you get even money. You may back 24 numbers by staking *à cheval* on the line between the compartments of two dozens or two columns, in which case you are giving odds of 2 to 1 on.

These are all the strict mathematical odds for a cylinder of 36 numbers. The profit of the bank is to be found in the fact that there are 37 numbers, when you include zero. You may back zero like any other number, and if you win you receive 35 times your stake. Or you may avail yourself of an outer corner to back zero in conjunction with numbers 1, 2, and 3 as a *carré*, when the bank is laying you 8 to 1 as usual. This is known as the *quatre premiers* and is a favourite resort. When zero turns up the bank takes all the money on the other numbers as a matter of course. It also takes all the money on the 2 to 1 chances (dozens and columns) and even on the odds-on chances (dozens or columns *à cheval*). But, illogically enough, it only takes half of the money staked on the even chances. For convenience, the method adopted, when zero turns up, is to place the even-chance stakes "in prison" on the outer line. Suppose you are on red when zero turns up, you are put into prison; then, if black turn up next time, the bank takes your money out of prison and keeps it; if red, you take it out without profit. This is precisely the same as dividing the stakes and leaving your half on, and you are always at liberty to have the money divided if you prefer. From these facts about the incidence of zero you will observe that it is far more profitable to play only on the even chances and leave the numbers severely alone. A rough calculation shows that the bank has 2 26-37 per cent. in its favour on the numbers and only 1 13-37 per cent. on the even chances.

Now we will embark upon the question of systems, if you please. Were you possessed of boundless wealth you would only have to back red, say, every time, and double your stake every time you lost, in order to win persistently. To guard against such eventualities the bank forbids your staking more than 6000 francs at a time on the same chance. Even were there no limit you would have the better of the bank at this game only if yours were the bigger capital of the two. For my part I would rather make the bank embark upon the doubling business. This can easily be done by staking a 5f. piece (known at Monte Carlo as a cart-wheel) on one of the even chances, and leaving it on until it shall either be swept away or have doubled up to the maximum, when it may no longer be left on. You have only to leave your money on, and win 11 times in succession to reach the maximum, and runs of more than 11 are by no means of rare occurrence. It is far more agreeable to risk 5f. for the chance of winning 10,235f. than to risk 10,235f. for the chance of winning 5f. Of course the best system of any is not to play at all, but if you must play—and there are many who must—a system has its advantages: for one thing, if you abide by it, you are kept within bounds and cannot lose your head. It is the fashion to dismiss roulette as a mere game of chance. There can be no greater mistake. All roulette players are agreed that there is some subtle influence, which is styled *l'esprit du jeu*. Account for it as you will, the machine has varying moods. Sometimes it will give you runs and sometimes intermittences on the various chances; sometimes it will behave in a humdrum, sometime in a cantankerous way; sometimes it will give you the same numbers again and again in defiance of every law of average; sometimes there is an entirely new number at almost every turn of the wheel. The successful player is the one whose observation is acute enough to perceive this spirit of the game, and to keep in touch with its ever-varying moods. This he cannot hope to do if he be vexed or disturbed in any way. He must note down every movement of the game, and draw his conclusions with unerring perspicuity. But if he know himself incapable of such patient genius a methodical system may be his best alternative to the certainty of losing.

Now, there are two kinds of system: that which gives and that which accepts odds. For my part I am an adherent to the latter. There is far less chance of "packing yourself up," as the pleasing French expression runs, if you expose small sums in the hope of acquiring large ones than if you risk a substantial capital for the ambition of persistent small gains. Of the former odd-laying category the best known is that which is hight the Labouchere system. Again and again hard-earned savings are taken out, futile syndicates are called into being in the confident expectation of making a certain regular income of some 20 per cent. per diem thereby. If the spirit of the game hap to be in harmony with the combinations of this system the capital may last a day or a week, or even a fortnight. But in the long run the law of averages must reassert itself, the percentage on the bank's side must clear the decks, and the system must fail. The system is a very simple one. Take a sheet of paper and write down the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, one underneath the other. Add together the top and bottom figures (1 and 4 are 5), and stake the total (in any coin you please) on any one of the even chances. If you win, strike out the figures 1 and 4 on the paper, add together the remaining two figures (2 and 3 are 5) and stake the total on an even chance. If you win, proceed to strike out the remaining figures and begin the whole process over again. You have won the 10 coins you set out to win. If you lose, you must down the amount of your loss at the foot of the column. General rule: Stake the amount of the top and bottom figures; if you win, strike those figures out; if you lose, add the figure of the loss at the bottom; go on doing this until all the figures are struck out. If you are unlucky, you will soon find yourself staking prodigious figures, and even the maximum is not difficult of encounter at this system.

A better system of the same category is that known as the *Montant d'Alembert*, by which you stake any sum you like on an even chance and persistently increase your stake one unit every time you lose, decreasing it one unit every time you win. If you calculate this out you will find that you are a winner if you win as many times as you lose, the bank's percentage to the contrary notwithstanding. And this you should do if your capital will stand the brunt of occasional high stakes. Moreover if you count up the reds and blacks in a day's play you will find that one colour is very rarely more than two or three points ahead at the end. Indeed this applies to an hour's play almost equally. But there are very few people capable of keeping their heads while playing a system, and once abandoned it is not to be picked up again readily.

Of systems of the other category, where the player is taking odds from the bank, the happiest is that known as the *Tiers et Tout*. You start with a small capital, seven pieces for choice, and play against a run of more than two on the even chances. Say black has just turned up. You stake one-third of your capital on red. If you lose you stake the remaining two-thirds on red. But if you win either time you add your winnings to your capital, and proceed as before with your increased capital. If there is a run of more than two against you you have only lost your seven pieces, and can begin again or not as you feel inclined. But if you play the game properly you have only to add to your capital 20 times in order to attain the maximum. There are other systems which may be summed up under the generic name of *Boule de Neige*, but they need not be enumerated in detail, as each player may devise a new one for himself. Here is a specimen. You are aiming at winning six times running. The first time you stake one piece and win one, then you stake two pieces and win two, then you add two pieces to your capital and win six. You now have 12 pieces to your capital, and win six. You now have 12 pieces, to which you add 6, which brings your capital up to 36 pieces if you win. Stake your whole capital twice more, and your sixth win gives you a profit of 135 pieces on an outlay of one piece and a half per turn of the wheel.

## *FEDERATION.*

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Your article in to-day's paper on this all-important subject will be welcomed by all who earnestly desire to see the federation of the Australian colonies in our time. Although, as you truly remark, the number of persons who have yet seriously studied the proposals contained in the Enabling Bill, or the provisions of the Constitution laid down by the historical Convention of 1891, might almost be counted on the fingers in each colony. Hitherto federation as a matter of practical politics has been neglected. It has now passed the kite-flying stage, and the quicker this fact dawns upon the populace the better. The legislators and Legislatures appear particularly anxious to bury the intercolonial disabilities under a grander and greater constitution, but the character of that constitution has, fortunately for its usefulness and applicability to modern demands, to go through the crucible of public opinion, which course is highly commendable to the framers of the Enabling Bill. The people, *i.e.*, the electors, are entrusted with the exercise of a right unexampled in nation-making, compared with which their former responsibility and political decisions fade into insignificance. Viewing the vast importance of the question, as it affects not only the present generation but those yet unborn, the magnitude and breadth of the reformation to be wrought, combined with the misty and limited knowledge of the average elector on this topic, it becomes not only essential, but absolutely necessary, that the electors should be educated up to an appreciation of the value of his newly acquired right, the object to be achieved, and the necessity for an intelligent application of the same. One omission from the Enabling Bill may furnish a bone for contention not calculated to assist federation, or the unbiassed judgment of the electors. That each qualified elector should have a vote and be expected to intelligently use the same is one thing. But when such elector finds that his choice is limited to the men of wealth and leisure, he will be apt to cool down quickly, and refuse to trouble about the matter unless some provision is made to enable the electors to make their choice from duly qualified men irrespective of position. Mr. Reid, when accepting the Council's undemocratic and unwise amendment, inferred that this would not be allowed to prove an insurmountable obstacle, or in other words, that a means would be found to provide for the payment of whatever men may be honoured with so important a duty. Such being the case, no time should be lost in quibbling. There are questions too sacred for carping criticism. The federation of the Australian colonies is pre-eminently one of them. Every opportunity is given to produce a constitution superior to any yet known. But this can only be achieved by the exercise of the intellectual, observant, and discriminating faculties of the people as a whole. The educational influences to which your article refers should become a reality in federal discussions. The Enabling Bill should be available to every elector, its provisions together with the experiences of nations should be analysed and made comparatively easy to understand. The elector should be taught to disassociate himself from the parochial and party politics of the day, and prepare himself for a higher duty than he has hitherto been asked to perform; he must learn to feel and recognise that the question of encircling the colonies with the bonds of unity and self-reliance is far removed from that of building a bridge over No Man's Creek. That the internal strife arising from the existing unnatural intercolonial laws cannot be removed by a private interview with the Minister, but requires that clever, tender, diplomatic mind and masterly intellect not possessed by every modern parliamentarian. Yes, he must recognise that there is a marvellous gulf between the qualified nation-builder and the every-day politician. The men who should commend themselves to the people are those who are possessed of sound judgment and clear intellects—patriotic, liberal students of constitutional law and modern civilisation—the observant, financial, and actuarial mind; and, above all, those men who stand erect, fearless of criticism or popular clamour. Who dare do right whatever betide, such men have courage true. The very thought of a United Australia should kindle the spark of brotherly love in the breast of every Australian citizen. The phenomenal possibilities attaching to its achievement are beyond the scope of this effort, each in itself being entitled to thorough discussion, which can be better achieved by a series of articles dealing with the economical, judicial (financial, intercolonial, and international)—railway reform and management; national waterways, their extension and utilisation; fiscalisms and their future; medical, educational, and academical possibilities; federation the key to self-reliance; the solution of the alien question; the key to the currency and coinage question; not forgetting the great social problems which will need full consideration.

It is not my mission here to enter into a review of any of the forgoing important issues involved, other than to hint at the far-reaching effect of a modern federal constitution. No broader, grander, nobler, or more fruitful subject ever awaited the assistance of the statesman, the orator, the writer who loves his country—here is room and work for all, varying as human nature itself (as represented by modern man). Here is a populace to educate, convince, and inspire with a keen sense of duty, and a determination to perform the same in a manner which should win the admiration and respect of generations yet to come.

Dec. 24. I am, &c., WILLIAM WEBSTER.

## *THE FATE OF COLOUR-BLIND SAILORS.*

As a matter of fact, nobody denies that sailors should be men of eyesight as perfect as is possible. But when it comes to applying such scientific and practical methods as will secure perfect eyesight in every boy or youth who proposes to follow the seafaring life, then difficulties of all kinds appear to spring up as if at the touch of a magic wand. In practice it comes to this—that anybody who pleases may commence the seafaring life, and he may continue it for as many years as he pleases if he be a person who has no desire to make the best of himself. But if, unfortunately for himself, he should develop a desire to improve his condition, he is obliged to submit his eyes for examination, and if he happen to be either colour-blind or defective in sight, he is straightway told that he must leave the sea, or be content to be a plain A.B. to the end of the chapter.

Certain consequences spring from this condition of things which grieve the sympathetic and exasperate the practical. So much is this the case that if there were but any method of getting at all the sympathetic and all the practical members of the community in one supreme effort there is no doubt that the new President of the Board of Trade would wish that his predecessors in office had shown a greater regard for practical science, and a much-diminished respect for permanent officialism and red-tape. Let us think for a moment of the intolerable hardships to which the best of our sailors are put, who may find out when they are full-grown men that they are cursed with colour-blindness or defective sight. Of course, no boy ought to be apprenticed to a seafaring life without being first examined by an expert as to the condition of his eyesight. If he were so examined he could be informed, while still a boy, whether or not his eyesight were perfect, and whether or not he were fit for a seafaring life. In that case no harm would be done. He would simply devote himself to a different occupation, in which the condition of the eyesight would be of less importance.—*The Hospital.*

## *TO ABSENT FRIENDS.*

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## STRANGE RENDERINGS.

*(London Evening Standard.)*

A dictionary is certainly a useful book, but it often chances that the free use of it leads the too-confiding student of literature into absurdities. The rendering from one tongue into another, must of necessity be a difficult task, if the two languages be not equally well known; and this is more especially the case with two such opposite languages as the Latin and English, or, still more so, with the French and English. It is here that the dictionary, be it as complete as it will, unless it be used with a very great deal of discretion, is apt to lead the unwary translator from one language into another astray. A beginner may, for example, as a beginner once did, come across the expression, "Un vol au vent à la financière." Say that the context gives no clue as to what a "vol au vent à la financière" is—it might be a piece of machinery, a book, a bird; it might, in fact, be anything. Well, the student reaches down his dictionary and looks up "vol." He finds that it means a theft. "Vent," on searching, turns out to be wind, and "financière" may be, according to the glossary, either a female stockbroker or a stockbroker's wife. Then, like the gentleman on the staff of the *Eatanswill Gazette*, who wrote an article on Chinese metaphysics from the combined information found under the words China and Metaphysics in the "Encyclopædia Britannica," he combines the information given him by his dictionary, and translates the name of a French dish as "a theft in the wind committed by the stockbroker's wife," a rendering which, if it has not the advantage of accuracy, has at least that of originality. Equally amusing, to an Englishman, is the French boy's attempt to "do" into his own language the word sweepstake. "Ramoneur au poteau" was the result; and the Frenchman who posed as a translator of Shakespeare was guilty of rendering part of the witch scene of "Macbeth" as follows:—The text says, "Macbeth, Macbeth, Macbeth, beware Macduff." The translator says, "Macbeth, Macbeth, Macbeth, prenez garde de Monsieur Macduff!" Perhaps it was the same man who rendered "Love's Last Shift" into French as "La dernière chemise de l'amour," but we do not know. To a lady, however, who spoke some English, but was apt to literally translate French idioms into our language, must undoubtedly be awarded the palm for a curious rendering of the expression "'un feu d'enfer.'" Now, in any French drawing-room whatever, it is as permissible to use the abovementioned simile, as it would be to say "dear me" in English society. The lady in question was in the habit of chanting *quanta patimurs* about the wastefulness of servants, and one day having found that her Abigail had an unnecessarily large fire burning in the kitchen, she entered her drawing-room, and plaintively rendered the expression into English as "she has again a hell of a fire down there," and could not see the joke when everybody burst out laughing.

In a Cambridge local examination recently, the "unseen" French was part of the account of Joan of Arc's relief of the city of Orleans. "I got along fairly well," said one of the candidates to another afterwards, "only I can't quite make out what a little flea can have had to do with the commanding of the French soldiery in Orleans." "What little flea?" was the natural query of his companion. "Why, La Pucelle—puce is the French for a flea, and so surely pucelle is the diminutive of it." Schoolboy blunders account for a great many curious renderings. It was one of them, we believe, who originated the translation "war horse" for "hors du combat," and the way that the classic authors are sometimes handled by them would be enough to make Lord Macaulay, with the recollection of his omniscient schoolboy still fresh in his memory, turn in his grave and squirm. How, for example, would he have liked to have heard, as we once heard, Virgil's line, "Infandum regina jubes renovare dolorem," translated, with all confidence, as "The unutterable queen bids him renew the grief?" "Immortal Cæsar dead and turned to clay" must have wept if, whilst taking an airing in the Elysian fields, he had chanced to overhear the semi-French boy translating out of De Bello Gallico into English. In the text the passage is "Cæsar per Alpium summa diligentia profectus est," a sentence which personally we should "do into English," as "Cæsar passed over the Alps with all possible speed." Not so our student. He rendered it as "Cæsar passed over the Alps on the top of a diligence!" Being reproved by the master, and told that this was incorrect, he tried a second time, the result being that "A diligence passed over Cæsar on the top of the Alps." Even this did not please the fastidious mind of the presiding dominie, however, so he made a last effort, and made the Alps pass over the unfortunate Cæsar on the top of a diligence. Most persons have heard the school-boy's rendering of the first three words of the "Æneid"—"Arma virumque cano," as "arms and the man with a cane." Perhaps this was a joke "in usum delphinum." We hope so; but the translation of "ventum erat" as "there was a wind" was given in all seriousness by a youth who has since become a prominent statesman, and who, if he had thereby brought down upon himself the wrath of "the man with a cane," would have got no more than he deserved.

The eighteenth century, for what reason we are unable to conjecture, seems to have been par excellence the age of translation—like the times which Horace describes; instead of poetry, learned and unlearned, they all made translations. At least they called those translations which make one quote, like Macaulay in his essay on the life and writings of Addison, "Bless thee, Bottom, bless thee, thou art translated." One Davidson, for instance, gave to the world a so-called translation of Virgil. Space forbids us to quote more than one example, but that one is a fair sample of what the translation throughout the work is like. In the sixth eclogue of the first book will be found the two following lines:—

"Tum vero in numerum faunosque ferasque videres
Ludere tum rigidas motare cacumina quercus."

Now we are not a Davidson, so that perhaps we may be wrong; still we would venture to translate this passage thus:—"Then truly might you have seen the fauns and wild beasts strike into a measured dance, while the usually motionless oaks waved their tops in unison." Mr. Davidson, however, thinks otherwise, and translates:—"Then you might have seen the fauns and savages striking about him in a measured dance, then the rigid oaks waving their tops." The author of this may have been able to parse a Latin sentence, to write Latin verse, or to teach small boys their "mensa a table, mensa Oh table," &c., but he could not render Virgil's meaning into English. Sometimes renderings take a form bordering on the humorous. Such is a schoolboy's English version of "Ite Capellæ"—Go it you Cripples;" whilst all readers of Byron will remember his line "'Arcades ambo' *id est*, blackguards both." It was that poet also who Englished the French expression "d'un certain age" as "certainly aged," and everybody will recollect Sam Weller's literal translation of "habeas corpus," "have his carcass." Juvenal has a line which runs, "Nemo repenti fuit turpissimus," an extract which is usually translated as "Nobody becomes thoroughly bad all at once." A witty Judge, however, made a rather free translation of the line; he gave it as "It takes five years to make a lawyer," a rendering which is doubly funny when it is taken into consideration that a solicitor has to be articled five years before he can be enrolled. Mr. Gudge in "Christopher Tadpole" was an attorney, and, as we are upon the subject of solicitors, his remark upon the heavy hotel bills which he was called upon to pay during his stay in Venice, though not, strictly speaking, a translation, might be given here—he remarked, "I suppose this is the dodge of Venice that we hear so much about." Thomas Barham has some uniliteral translations which are singularly happy. His epigram, for instance:—

What Horace says is, "Eheu fugacis
Anni labuntur Posthume Posthume"—
Years flee away and are lost to me, lost to me.

is one of them; and, by way of conclusion, we will give his rhyming version of Virgil's line—

"Hos ego versiculos feci tulit alter honores"
I wrote the lines—owned them; he told stories.

## *ABOUT THE COMET.*

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—On Christmas Eve a very brilliant object appeared about four degrees above the horizon, south by east, say, the time 7 p.m. It seemingly travelled very fast northerly and easterly, until at 11 p.m. its position was about south-east by south, and the altitude 10 degrees. The appliances for observation were very meagre—ordinary opera and field glasses—but even with the eyes alone the sparkling was remarkable. Could it have been the new comet?

I am, &c.,

December 25. N. HAWKEN.

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## MEN AND WOMEN WHO SMUGGLE.

### A CHAT WITH A CUSTOM-HOUSE OFFICER.

*(Westminster Gazette.)*

"No," replied the officer to a representative, "smuggling is not carried on so largely as it once was, sir; not on so great a scale, I mean. But there's still a lot of it done."

"There are no cargoes run, I suppose?"

"No, not here at any rate. Further down the coast the fishermen may do a bit of that sort of thing occasionally, perhaps. But here it's all done on a small scale by the people crossing on the passenger boats. The old romantic days, when cargoes worth £5000 were run, are all gone by. That was when I was a little shaver in short clothes. Nowadays it's mostly the hundred of cigars stowed round the false side of a hat box, or the pint of eau-de-cologne put in a water cushion which the invalid carries off the boat in her hand, or the dozen yards of fine lace which another woman binds round her under her corset. I've been at the work now some 10 years, and it would surprise you, sir, to know the dodges people are up to so as to escape paying a few shillings duty."

"Perhaps it's the excitement of smuggling that has something to do with it," I suggested.

"I believe you've hit it," was the reply; "otherwise, I'm thinking people wouldn't run the risks they do just for a few shillings, and all the bother too. The ingenuity exercised is something extraordinary, I can assure you, and one would imagine that it might be employed to some better account. Of course, with some 100,000 tourists going over in the season for holidays, there is a good deal of amateur smuggling done, but it's those who go over and back again pretty frequently who're the worst offenders. The most the ordinary tourist tries to get through duty free (and often unaware that any wrong is being committed thereby) is a little brandy, a small quantity of tobacco, cigars, or lace at the very bottom of his or her trunk or bag as the case may be. They simply take their chance of being found out or not. And, of course, no doubt a good many escape detection. We can't examine every trunk, hatbox, handbag, or portmanteau very carefully. We judge a good deal by appearances, and it's surprising how accurately you get to spot a likely one after a bit of practice. You see, it's no very thankful task to turn out ladies' boxes in the search for dutiable goods. And some of them don't omit to let us have 'a piece of their mind,' as it's called, while we're doing it. Not but what I can understand a lady not liking a man to pull her clothes about; and then very often we have to turn out a good deal more than any one of us could manage to put back. But it has to be done. And one or two big 'lets off' would go a long way towards losing a chap his berth."

"Some of the dodges are very smart, aren't they?" I asked, as my informant seemed to be drifting away from the most interesting side of the subject.

"Yes, indeed. You've heard all about the gentleman who was in the habit of taking a trip across pretty frequently with his pneumatic-tyred bicycle? For some considerable time he wasn't suspected, but at last it occurred to one of us that he made a good many trips with his bicycle, and couldn't have much time on the other side for riding. Then one of us noticed his tyres were very solid-looking, and kept blown up a good deal better than most pneumatics. So one day they were just tested. They were as hard as bricks pretty well, and stuffed chockful of the finest tobacco. He must have saved £2 or £3 duty every trip he made. Then there was that baby," continued the speaker with a laugh, "that wasn't a baby after all. Some three or four years ago a nice-looking lady, with an equally nice-looking nurse carrying a baby all muffled up as babies mostly are when quite young, came down to go aboard one morning, and did so a good many times afterwards. The nurse was a pretty young girl, and used always to speak pleasantly enough. 'Had she enjoyed her trip across?' 'Rather. The missus doted on the water, and the doctor had said it was good for the baby.' The baby was a nice-looking little thing, what one could see of it; but it was always asleep and covered up. It seemed pretty heavy for its apparent size, I noticed; but for a time I didn't lay much store on that. One day, however, when the nurse was coming off the boat, the baby gave a very peculiar sound, and I noticed that she looked scared. Next time she came across we had obtained some information which led to the nurse being taken into the female searchers' room. The baby proved to be an indiarubber one containing about a gallon of the best brandy. The face was a composition one, and so well done that even if we'd caught a casual glimpse of it I dare say we mightn't have noticed anything wrong. That puts me in mind of another case, where a woman used to take a baby backwards and forwards sucking at a big bottle. It always seemed full of milk, but it wasn't. The bottle was made of opaque or milky-looking glass, and contained best cognac. How did we find it out, sir? By a sheer accident. One day the baby dropped the bottle right in the gangway, and, instead of the white fluid we expected to see, there was a brown-gold one, and an odour like anything but milk.

"Then there was an oldish lady who used to come down and go over two or three times a week when the weather was anything like good. She always gave the men at the gangway tracts, and us too if she could get near us. She always carried a good-sized Bible, closed together with a broad elastic band. Whenever I saw her reading it, which was not often, she was doing so quite at the beginning, somewhere about Genesis or Exodus. For a long time we thought that she was attached to some mission, or was a Bible-woman or tract distributor, or something of that sort. But at last suspicion was aroused, and when next she came across I stepped up politely to her, as she was going away having no luggage, and said I should be much obliged if she'd allow me to look in her Bible, as a mate of mine had said I was wrong in thinking a certain verse was in the 80th Psalm. At first she tried to put me off, saying she was in a great hurry, and that she was sure so good a man as I looked to be had a Bible of his own at home. And if I hadn't she'd bring me one down the next morning. In the end, however, she had to give up the Bible she was carrying, and we found that except for a few leaves at the beginning and at the end it was a solid block, so to speak, made of papier-maché, hollowed right out in the centre where we found some £10 or £12 worth of lace. She had made some 30 trips, I should say, before she was caught, so she must have done well by her Bible.

"There were three girls," the speaker continued, after a pause to see if the boat were in sight, "who worked a clever system of lace smuggling some few years ago for quite a long time ere their dodge was found out. They were apparently young ladies; if not that, at all events respectable girls. They generally made a trip or two a week. For a long time this went on, and we had no suspicion of them at all. But at last the regularity of their trips, and the fact that though they weren't over-good sailors they always went once a week at any rate, aroused some doubts. One day one of us asked a couple of them to step into the searching-room. Nothing incriminating was discovered, except that the female searcher who attended to them said that they had the loveliest lace on their underthings as ever she did see. Well, we apologised for having given them the trouble, and they very politely said it didn't matter a bit. After a week or two had passed, we sent over someone with them one day, and when they got t'other side they were searched. There wasn't a scrap of lace trimming on either their petticoats or other underwear. They were watched to a certain house, where they remained all day, returning the next morning. When they landed they were searched again. Just as was suspected, they were smothered in yards and yards of the costliest lace, five or six rows on each of their petticoats, and the other garments in the same style. Of course, the game was up. 'A very clever trick.' I agree with you, sir. I could tell you several more just as smart, but there isn't time. We've several of those hollowed-out Bibles in the museum, as we call it. A tin hatbox with a false bottom for tobacco storage, a ditto with false sides for spirits, bust improvers made up entirely of lace with a casing of sateen, false busts made for smuggling spirits, a corset taken off a lady's maid in the lining of which she had stowed away some 40 yards of lace, several pairs of indiarubber hips or panniers made and used for smuggling cognac. One woman who had a pair of these must have got between 30 and 40 gallons across duty free before she was caught. There is a perambulator, too, with a false well used for smuggling purposes, and a lot of other things. But I mustn't stay yarning any longer. I can tell you we have to be pretty smart to catch these sort of people."

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From John Walker, G.P.O., Box 756, Walker's Whisky, Waltham Buildings, 24 Bond-street, Sydney, 17th September, 1895.
Dear Sir,—I have been suffering for some years with scurf and itchiness in my head, and on trying your cure found I was all right in three days. Yours faithfully,
JOHN WALKER.

## A TALK ABOUT TOGGERY.

### A VISIT TO A MEN'S DRESSMAKER.

There is no subject, as Carlyle long ago perceived, so fascinating to the human mind (says the *Westminster Gazette*) as the strange variety of shapes and forms and colours to which the primitive necessity of covering the human form as a protection against wind and weather and a refuge for natural modesty has given rise. Many volumes might be filled with the history of the evolution of clothes from the woad and war paint of the savage to the latest Bond-street fashion of our day. Full of interest, as such a work could not fail to be, perhaps nothing is so interesting as what may be called the ceremonial use of clothes. It may plausibly be argued that a Judge will do his work as well sitting in his shirt sleeves with his feet up on the desk before him, while he chews tobacco and spits it on the ground—which is said to be the rule in some parts of America—as if he appeared in all the pomp of scarlet and ermine to which we are accustomed in this country, and that a bishop is no less a bishop though he should crown the Sovereign in a tweed suit or a frock coat. But, as a matter of fact, the frills and furbelows, the silks and satins of official finery, do exercise through the eye and the imagination a very powerful influence over the minds of all men, cultured and uncultured alike. Of all the countries of the Old World no nation has shown itself so tenacious of its sumptuary traditions and so lavish in its display of the outward signs and symbols of office as democratic England. From the Court with the elaborate etiquette and ordered pageantry, which is the very breath of life to it, down to the humblest and most recently-incorporated mayor and corporation the same reverence for trappings is seen at work. The result of a chat with a representative of the well-known firm of robemakers, Messrs. Ede and Son, of Chancery-lane, who hold a warrant from the Queen, should therefore be of interest to all.

This firm has existed under different names for over 200 years. It was founded by a Mr. Webb in 1689—the year in which the Crown of England was offered on bended knee to William and Mary by the heads of the Convention Parliament—and was carried on by his son and grandson under the original name for many years until in 1820 the great pressure of work caused by the approaching coronation of George IV. induced the surviving Mr. Webb to take his nephew, the Mr. Ede of that day, into partnership. The firm thus reconstituted made most of the robes for the King's coronation, which was of unparalleled magnificence. George IV., unlike his bluff sailor brother and successor, William IV., was a very "dressy" king, and it pleased him that no part of the splendid feudal pageantry of former days, from the challenge of the Hereditary Champion and the banquet in Westminster Hall down to the minutest detail of a page's livery, should be omitted. His coronation mantle of crimson velvet and ermine alone cost £2000. The ceremony is said to have cost the country a million of money, besides which all the illustrious personages who figured in it were put to an enormous amount of private expense. The Duke of Wellington, as Lord High Constable of England, in his full robes as a peer, accompanied by the Earl Marshal and Lord High Steward, rode into Westminster Hall during the banquet on "a beautiful white charger, richly caparisoned, with a plume of white feathers, surmounted with some heron's feathers, on its head." The newspapers of the day record that "as this procession approached the throne his Majesty seemed to regard it with great satisfaction," and that when presently the procession retired, "the horsemen backing their chargers with perfect precision, the most rapturous applause attended the scene, in which his Majesty seemed perfectly to coincide." The Marquis of Anglesey, the Lord High Steward, had lost a leg at Waterloo, so his horsemanship is all the more to be commended.

Messrs. Adam and Ede, as the firm had then come to be styled, made most of the robes required for the coronation of Queen Victoria, except (oddly enough) those of the Queen herself, which, if not exactly "made in Germany," were entrusted to a German firm to make. Until last year an old man was still living in Mr. Ede's employ who as a boy had strained his eyes long hours over her Majesty's robes. The Queen's coronation, as contrasted with that of her magnificent uncle, cost the country the mere trifle of £300,000.

Leaving the splendours of royalty, and coming to more everyday matters, a new peer when he requires a peer's robe for presentation in the House of Lords presents himself first to Mr. Ede to obtain the requisite equipment. A new robe costs from £40 to £50. Peers of old degree, proud of their descent, plume themselves on wearing the identical robe worn by the founder of their house, though in some cases it is so old that it is almost dropping to pieces. But since the Queen gave up opening Parliament in person these venerable relics do not often need to be taken from the safes where they repose laid up in lavender and camphor. A peer's rank in the peerage is denoted by the number of bars or layers of ermine which traverse the robe back and front. Thus a duke has four bars in front and four behind, a marquis drops a bar behind, while an earl has three of each, a baron two, and a viscount three in front and two behind. When a peer gets a rise in the Peerage the requisite number of bars are added to the robe to show his new degree. A bishop wears a tippet of ermine and the red robe of a peer over his lawn sleeves and rochet. A peer's robe is ordinarily made of bright scarlet cloth, but at a coronation the robe must be of the richest crimson velvet with a deep ermine tippet and a coronet. This last is made of silver gilt, and can be supplied for about £50. It sometimes happens that the executors of a deceased peer who has never taken the trouble to procure a coronet in his lifetime order one in hot haste to be laid on his coffin at the funeral.

Messrs. Ede supply also the robes and insignia of the different orders of knighthood. Here, too, the full splendour of the robemaker's art has suffered eclipse since the death of the Prince Consort and the partial retirement of the Queen. Though the Knights of the Garter still have their "Collar Days" as of yore—certain church festivals and royal anniversaries, 36 in all—no full dress investiture of the order has been held for many years. The dark blue mantle of the Garter was last worn at the marriage of Prince of the Wales, but even then it was worn only over uniform. The full dress of a knight includes trunk hose and doublet of slashed satin, with a wealth of white satin ribbons and rosettes, a laced ruff, and a cap of state garnished with ostrich feathers. Formerly when an investiture of the Garter was to be held at Windsor a member of the firm used to go down and charge the knights a guinea apiece for dressing and robing them, for this sort of work requires an expert, and would be quite beyond the ken of my lord's valet. The Knights of the Bath are entitled to wear a superb mantle of crimson velvet, but as no installation of knights in Henry VII.'s chapel has taken place since 1812 the mantle is now disused. One noble lord, however, ordered a mantle of the Bath a few years ago that he might have his portrait painted in it. One of Messrs. Ede's most cherished possessions is an autograph letter from the great Lord Nelson, which hangs framed on the wall, as follows:—"Lord Nelson requests that whatever robes, &c., are delivered out of the wardrobe for the Knights of the Bath may be delivered to Mr. Webb, robemaker.—NELSON AND BRONTE. To the Lord Chamberlain's Office. January 31, 1803."

The Knights of St. Patrick still hold their installations with great ceremony in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. The mantle of St. Patrick is of sky blue satin, that of the Thistle of green velvet, that of St. Michael and St. George dark blue lined with crimson, and so on.

We come now to the fascinating topic of clerical dress—to what may be called the higher clerical tailoring. Dean Church in one of his letters has amusingly described the dismay of the late Bishop Fraser at finding what an assortment of unwonted garments which, like David, he had not "proved" he was expected to don. And indeed a bishop's get-up is a fearful and wonderful thing. It falls conveniently under two heads: (1) his episcopal robes, (2) his indispensable wearing apparel. The former includes a rochet of fine cambric with the lawn sleeves attached, the chimere of black satin, and the broad scarf or almuce of black silk over the shoulders. Some bishops wear a cassock of purple cloth or silk under the rochet. The chimere (pronounced shimere) resembles a long straight coat gathered at the back, and is made of the richest and stiffest satin specially manufactured for the purpose. The origin of the name is involved in obscurity. It can be traced to a Spanish word, chamarra, which means a loose light gown of sheepskin. Archbishop Thomson always called it chimar (ch hard as in Greek). Anciently the chimere was made of scarlet, but Bishop Hooper, of Gloucester, who was burnt at the stake in 1555, thought this unbecoming a grave and godly man, and changed the colour to black. Not long ago, however, a bishop who was going out to Africa ordered a chimere of scarlet, because bright colours please the black men, and in the West Indies it is sometimes made of white satin for the sake of coolness. The lawn sleeves, which now form part of the rochet, have varied a good deal in fulness, from the frightful balloon sleeves in which Doyle caricatured Bishop Blomfield more than 40 years ago to the tight-fitting sleeve, scarcely wider than an ordinary shirt sleeve, of which Archbishop Benson first set the fashion. The tendency is now again towards the ampler form. The mysteries of the laundress's art as it affects lawn sleeves were well set forth in a sketch entitled "Master's Washing," which appeared in the *Westminster Gazette* at the time when the episcopal mangle was hard at work on the Parish Councils Bill in the House of Lords. But it may be mentioned that Mr. Ede was the first to see that contact with hundreds of heads at confirmations subjected a bishop's frills to greater wear and tear than the sleeve itself, and so bethought him to make the ruffles detachable. A complete set of robes costs a bishop about £20, and they have been known to last as long as 30 years. At consecrations in Westminster Abbey or St. Paul's Mr. Ede is generally in attendance to help their lordships to robe. When sitting in convocation the bishops wear their scarlet doctors' gowns over the rochet, the two primates being entitled to a train.

Space fails to speak of the different varieties of caps: the "Bishop Andrews" cap, always worn by Laud, which the present Bishop of Lincoln has revived; the "Cosin" cap, the "John Knox" cap, and so forth. Ecclesiastical vestments, properly so called, come under the head of embroidery rather than of clerical tailoring, and are to a large extent the work of the High Church sisterhoods.

A bishop's ordinary wearing apparel comprises coat and apron, gaiters, and kneebreeches. The gaiters are worn over "pantaloon breeches," which reach to the calf of the leg. The apron is a relic of the full silk cassock, which was the habitual dress of the eighteenth century divines. It has undergone much the same process of gradual curtailment as the commoner's gown of an Oxford undergraduate. It reaches to the knee, and resembles a long pinafore with holes for the head and arms, a band for the waist, and an elaborate arrangement of strings behind. It is by no means an easy thing to get into, as a newly-appointed dean once found to his cost when the time to receive his guests arrived, and he was still wrestling with his apron. A bishop's hat is looped up at the sides with ribbons. An archdeacon, as *oculus episcopi*, has a right to wear it; but a dean, who is merely the first presbyter in the diocese, has not. Doctors of divinity wear a small rosette in the front of the hat. At a drawing-room or levée clergymen of whatever degree appear in a black silk gown and cassock with "pudding sleeves" and bands, and carry the "three-decker" in the hand. For Court dress, as when dining with the Queen, the purple coat is *de rigueur* for a bishop. It is adorned with many unnecessary buttons, and a witty prelate is credited with the remark that the worst of being a bishop was that it was so easy to buttonhole him; he was all buttons.

Messrs. Ede, though they do not undertake theatrical business, are occasionally called in as experts. Thus the firm made the gorgeous robe required for the Chancellor in "Iolanthe," and the scarlet and ermine robes for the Judges in "Utopia, Limited." Their chests contain literally thousands of academic hoods, and a portrait of Dr. Sophie Bryant, the first lady doctor of science of the University of London, is not the least interesting of the many trophies and tributes which hang on the walls.

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## THE KU-CHENG MASSACRES.

### ONE OF THE SURVIVORS.

### THRILLING STORY OF MISS CODRINGTON.

Miss Codrington, one of the ladies attached to the now famous mission at Ku-cheng, and who was in the thick of the murderous Vegetarians during the terrible massacre at that place, has just arrived in England by the steamship Manila (says the *Pall Mall Gazette* of 14th November), and a representative sought her out to hear her thrilling story from her own lips. She was staying at Torquay with her fellow-traveller and missionary friend, Miss Leslie, and was taking a much-needed rest after her voyage. She is still suffering from the effects of the injuries received at the hands of the barbarous rioters, and also from shock to the system, and it is not improbable that she will have to undergo an operation to one of her eyes in consequence of injuries sustained at Ku-cheng, or rather at Hua Sang. Miss Codrington is small and delicately built, but her face is full of power and determination, and though her demeanour is a charming mixture of gentleness and refinement, she has shown that she is not destitute of the sterner qualities. She is a soldier's daughter, and as such is proud that the wounds she received on that terrible day were all in front, and there is no lack of evidence of the bold and unflinching manner in which she faced the murderous mob who were surging all round her and calling out for the blood of the foreign devils. In that moment of sudden and awful peril she was as calm and collected as when our representative talked with her in the Torquay drawing-room. But the lady seemed to have no idea of the heroism of the part she played, and during her narrative, which was told with much dramatic power and strong feeling, displayed a surprising amount of self-forgetfulness, which is evidently one of her prominent characteristics. She was a very easy subject for the interviewer. She appeared to know exactly what was wanted, and though the subject could not fail to be deeply painful to her, she spoke willingly and required no stimulating by questions. It was a dictation rather than an interview. Plunging straight away into the subject, she said, "First of all I ought to explain that the village of Hua Sang, where the massacre took place, is about six miles from Ku-cheng, and is not one of our mission stations, but a summer resort in the hills where we go, some from one station, some from others, to spend part of the hot weather, and at this time Mr. Stewart and his party were occupying one house and our party another close by. Early on the morning of 1st August I was startled by a shouting of men's voices, children screaming, and terrified cries from the servants' quarters. I went at once to the front door and there met one of our ladies, who had been sitting outside reading, coming into the house, followed by a man brandishing a long spear. We got the door and shutters fastened up and aroused the others in the house. The man outside was hammering in the windows with his spear and calling on others to join him. More men came, and they set to work to break down the front of the house. We then shut ourselves into a bedroom, but thinking that the Vegetarians probably came for plunder, and would not harm us, we determined to make a rush for the open. We were delayed by a fastened door, and one of our party received a wound on the shoulder. We then tried to escape by the window, but were driven back by the two men with spears. We knelt together in prayer as the mob burst in on us, but they were then too busy searching for plunder to molest us, so we made our way out to the court at the back. Here we were again confronted by men who pulled us about, searching for money, and one man pulled the ring off my finger. Still we did not conceive that their object was anything worse than plunder, till another man, who seemed to have some authority, came up and said: 'Have you secured everything, and the foreigners—have you killed them?' 'Not yet,' was the reply, and the man issued the order: 'Then do it quickly.' Just at the moment, a man in different dress—I think it was a Hua Sang villager—made an appeal on our behalf, and begged them not to kill us. But this had no effect on the mob, who said, 'Give us 2000dol. and we will not.' While this was going on we had got clear of the house, and were standing in the open between Mr. Stewart's house and ours, surrounded by Vegetarians. I endeavoured to work on the fears of those who seemed to be the leaders, telling them that the consequences would be most serious to them if they ill-treated us in any way. The men were gathered round threatening us with knives and spears. Some said, 'Take them to Ku-cheng,' in the hope of reward. Others said, 'Kill them.' The former seemed to be gaining the day, when a man bearing a red flag rushed up crying, 'Kill them, kill them every one.' This was the signal for the onslaught. A man seized me by the collar of the jacket and pointed a knife at my throat. Then, as our eyes met, he dropped his hand and walked away. In the scuffle I had been dragged away, but now got back to the others, and, standing close together, we received the attack. I had advised that when we were struck we should fall and feign death. A blow on the head made me unconscious for a minute. When I recovered I was lying between two of the girls. I still heard men's voices, so lay quite still. Soon I heard the order to start given, followed by the crackling of burning timber, which told me that our houses were on fire. I remember hearing one of the children crying, 'Oh, they've killed them all!' As soon as I dared, I got up. Two of my party were dead, and two seemed to be just breathing. They were lying under the wall of the house, and I managed to drag them out of the reach of the flames. Then my strength gave way, and I went in search of help. Seeing a man standing near who answered my friendly signs, I made my way to him, and we were joined by some friendly native Christians. They seemed nervous, and afraid to take me to a friend's house near by, in case the rioters should return. But I was now quite exhausted, and they took pity on me and got me into the house. I must have lost consciousness, for I remember nothing until I found myself being attended to by Mr. Phillips. Dr. Gregory arrived later and dressed my wounds, and I cannot be too grateful for the kind attention of these two gentlemen, who worked by the fitful light of a Chinese lantern at a time of eminent anxiety and peril. One thing further I should like to add. It has been said that the sufferings of my poor murdered friends were terrible. I do not believe in the least that such was the case. None of us thought that the rioters would do worse than plunder, and the suddenness of the final onslaught acted, I sincerely believe, as an anaesthetic, and they suffered little."

"And what are these Vegetarians?" asked our representative.—"They are a distinct religious body," replied the lady, "holding, curiously enough, as a prime article of faith that it is wicked to take life of any kind. Vegetarians are not necessarily low class. You find them in every class. These particular ones belonged to a band of malcontents, rebels who have a stronghold in the mountains near Ku-cheng city."

"You do not think, then, that this outrage had any anti-foreign or anti-Christian significance?"—"I do not think the average inhabitants of the villages and towns, where we foreign missionaries work, are in sympathy with these outrages. Indeed, in my village of Sa Yong, where I and my friend Miss Tolley work, and which is a day's journey from Ku-cheng city, after this massacre was known, the volunteer police (the Chinese expression held out small hopes of an English equivalent), fearing that the rioters would go and plunder there, for a whole week kept guard day and night over our houses, and when I returned not a thing had been touched."

"What is your work at Sa Yong?—"We had day schools for the children; we did a lot of district visiting; we gave lectures to the women on the subject of the Christian faith, and in some cases we boarded the women. I love my work out there, and I am fixed in my determination to go back."

Then the conversation turned on the voyage home, and Miss Codrington incidentally remarked that she spoke feminine Chinese. This required explanation, and it turned out that as her work lay mostly among women and children, she used the language that they used, and the feminine vocabulary is much more restricted than that of the other sex. This arises from the fact that the Chinese woman is in a state of the grossest ignorance on general subjects; her ideas are limited, and her demands on the language correspondingly small.

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## SIGNOR CRISPI AT HOME.

(*St. James's Gazette.*)

Francesco Crispi, ex-conspirator, ex-Garibaldian, ex-Republican, present Prime Minister of Italy, whose fate he seems to hold in the hollow of his hand, is now in his seventy-fifth year. Nevertheless, even in looks, he is anything but an old man. Energetic, restless by temperament, he leads a wonderfully active life, seldom leaving the Italian capital, even when the heat of the Roman summer drives everyone else to the seaside or the mountains. He is perhaps the only Italian statesman who understands what business means; and in this fact may rest the secret of his remarkable success. Other Italians work by fits and starts, with long intervals of indolence. Crispi, to use an Americanism, works all the time. He is, perhaps, as much misunderstood as any man now living. In speaking of him, Mrs. Browning's words, used by Amy in speaking of her lover, recur to the mind:—

He's sweetest friend, or hardest foe,
Best angel, or worst devil.

According to the individual temperament of the critic, Crispi is hated or adored, lauded as an angel or decried as a demon. The truth, as with most things in this sublunary sphere, probably lies in middle—Crispi is neither as black nor as white as he is painted. His personality is a very marked and complex one: of that there can be no doubt. By some he is represented as a conceited parvenu, a Miles Gloriosus, a man fond of show and luxury; but to those who have caught a glimpse of the quiet busy life the Prime Minister leads in his little house in Via Gregoriana these accusations are shown to be unfounded. Signor Crispi's residence is an unpretending one-storied house, neat and comfortable, but looking more like the elegant *garçonnière* of a man about town than the palace of a statesman. It is situated near the Piazza di Trinità dei Monti, so well known to all tourists in Rome, and stands opposite the quaint old mansion commonly called Tempietto, where the celebrated painter Federico Zuccari lived, and which his descendants still occupy. This spot, one of the loftiest in Rome, and from which a beautiful view can be enjoyed, with St. Peter's majestic dome in the distance, is also considered one of the healthiest in the capital, as a Latin inscription placed on the façade of a neighbouring house informs us.

On entering the front door, always guarded by gendarmes and policemen, both in uniform and plain clothes, we find ourselves in a square courtyard surrounded by a colonnade of Doric pillars. A door on the left opens into the garden; to the right a marble staircase leads up to the apartments occupied by the Prime Minister and his wife, Donna Lina, the sole occupants of the house since their only child, Peppina, was married to the Prince of Linguaglossa, a young Sicilian nobleman. The rooms are furnished in good taste, without any showiness but with a great deal of simple elegance. We see no traces of the Sardanapalus of whom we have heard so much in these quiet comfortable apartments, which, unlike many habitations of the great, have a useful and lived-in appearance. It is here—not in the Chamber of Deputies or at Palazzo Braschi—that the real man can be seen and known. And that man is very different from what his adversaries, or even his partisans, suppose. Never was there a more thorough disbeliever in the maxim, "Take the goods the gods provide;" for of those good things which gladden the hearts of simpler or worldlier mortals Crispi does not avail himself at all. He sleeps little, eats less, and does not drink or smoke. Instead of indulging in copious libations of beer, like Prince Bismarck, or even of his native wine, Crispi drinks nothing stronger than milk, of which he consumes about three litres a day. But in order to have a better idea of the Prime Minister's active and almost ascetic mode of living, let us follow him through a whole day of his busy life.

Like Mr. Gladstone, Signor Crispi is an early riser. He gets up at 6, and immediately proceeds to make his toilet, which, judging from the length of time it occupies, must be one of the most important operations of the day. For two whole hours the valet is busy in his master's room, the proceedings reaching a climax when the moment for shaving arrives, for the patient insists on reading the newspapers—which he gradually throws on the floor in a heap around him—while the difficult operation is proceeding—an operation whose speed is greatly hindered by this habit.

At 8 Signor Crispi takes a cup of milk, dispensing, as all Italians do, with a more substantial breakfast. His private secretary, Commendatore Pinelli, is now called in attendance, and with him the Prime Minister drives in a close carriage to the Ministry of the Interior in the Palazzo Braschi. This carriage is always closely followed by a cab, in which are a police-inspector and two policemen in plain clothes. Since the recent attempt on his life by Lega, Signor Crispi seems always to fear the renewal of such an outrage. Consequently his house is guarded night and day, and when he drives from the Via Gregoriana to the Palazzo Braschi the coachman has orders to change the itinerary every day. This excess of prudence, which, coming as it does from an ex-Garibaldian and one who has fought on many a battle-field for the cause of Italian independence, has laid him open to some ridicule and much not wholly undeserved censure, and has certainly helped to weaken his popularity. A certain section, too, of the public are beginning to complain of the cost of thus protecting the life of the Prime Minister, which amounts to £200 a month when he is in Rome and rises to much higher figures when he leaves it. In the present disastrous state of Italian finances this is a heavy price to pay for one man's nervousness. At the Palazzo Braschi the business of the day commences. Commendatore Pinelli reports on the various affairs which the Minister must personally attend to and reads out documents and letters, while Crispi takes notes and gives directions or dictates answers. Even in his private office the Prime Minister never allows himself to be left alone. Further, on the table at which he works, and which is covered with official papers, there is always a loaded revolver within reach of his hand. It is not at all difficult to obtain an interview with Crispi in his official capacity. On these occasions he is affable and almost loquacious, and when his visitors leave he usually shakes hands with them—merely touching the tips of their fingers, however, in the old Italian fashion of last century. But with his subordinates and with Government employees his manner is less cordial, and in giving his instructions he is concise and exact.

At 12 Crispi returns home to luncheon. His secretary, Signor Pinelli, is a regular guest, and when the poet Carducci or Adriano Lemmi, the Grand Master of Italian Freemasonry, are in Rome, they too are invited. The meal is almost frugal in its simplicity, consisting of one dish of meat, some vegetables, and fruit. At lunch the conversation invariably turns on political subjects. Immediately after luncheon the Prime Minister returns to his work, driving again by a long *détour* to the Palazzo Braschi, where he remains as a rule till 7 o'clock in the evening; but if there is pressing business he does not return till much later.

At 8 dinner takes place, the bill of fare differing but little from the preceding one. After dinner a few intimate friends are apt to drop in, and an animated conversation, in which Donna Lina takes a lively part, is carried on in the drawing-room. Politics are now banished, and it is at this hour that the veteran statesman appears at his best and pleasantest. In his drawing-room in the evening he is gay, sometimes witty; waxing eloquent and enthusiastic when he relates some episode of his exile in the days of Bourbon oppression, or his exploits in the battle-field under Garibaldi, his friend and leader, for whose memory he cherishes a boundless veneration. While he is "fighting his battles o'er again" he looks a different man from the cynical, white-haired, wearied, worried-looking Prime Minister who rises in the Chamber of Deputies to repel the petty and not always civil attacks of Imbriani or Cavallotti. A visitor at one of these evenings has told how the old veteran is quite transfigured when he relates the stirring incidents of this past. His eye brightens with unusual fire, his voice is resonant, and then, and then alone, does his native dialect come uppermost, and clearly betray his Sicilian birth. At midnight Crispi retires to rest. He sleeps alone in his room, but a faithful servant watches all night at his master's door.

Like most Sicilians, Signor Crispi is superstitious to a degree which seems incredible in a man of his character and acquirements. Like nearly all Italians, he always wears a little coral ornament at his watch-chain in the shape of a horn, which is believed to be a powerful talisman against the evil eye. In Parliamentary discussions, when the Opposition are making an unusually vigorous onslaught on the Government, Crispi's hand is seen to be continually playing in a nervous manner with this magic toy as he meditates his reply, and it is to this wise precaution that he laughingly attributes many of his victories. Laughingly, but he believes in its efficacy all the same, though half-ashamed of owning this to a non-Italian. Crispi never carries any money about his person, with the exception of two English sovereigns which Garibaldi gave him as a souvenir, and which he always keeps in his waistcoat pocket. To these two coins Crispi also attaches a superstitious value. There is a curious story with regard to them. One day the Prime Minister met a poor old patriot who had been his companion in exile, and who had been reduced to actual beggary. In a sudden impulse of generosity he dived instinctively into his pocket and gave the poor fellow the two sovereigns, forgetting that they were the precious gift of Garibaldi. On returning home he missed them, and instantly sent his secretary to try and find the man. The man was found, but the sovereigns were no longer in his possession. But Crispi was determined to get back his talisman, and after days of patient research the truant sovereigns were traced to the shop of a money-changer and triumphantly restored to their owner.

## LORD SALISBURY'S NEW ERA.

In his recent speech at Watford, over which the Gladstonians try to make merry with rather a melancholy air, Lord Salisbury (says the *Spectator*) made a remark on which we wonder that he did not enlarge a good deal, for it was undoubtedly a very shrewd remark on the political signs of the times. He said that ever since Lord John Russell first introduced his bill for enlarging the suffrage, the great political struggle of this country had been conducted on the lines, or the extended lines, of that proposal so to enlarge the area of the representative system as to include in it first one, and then another, class of the English people. The last great battle on that subject was the inclusion of the agricultural labourer by the Reform Bill of 1885. Since then Lord Salisbury thought that the British working class have begun to feel indifferent to struggles which no longer promise any new departure in the spirit of political life, and have turned their attention to reaping the harvest, hitherto very imperfectly gathered in, of social well-being. That remark goes very much deeper into the forecast of the future than the careless reader would suppose. And we are specially glad to hear it from Lord Salisbury, since he and Mr. Balfour were known to have entertained the design of waging yet another grand campaign on the old lines for the inclusion of women among the class of political electors. Now, it is worth notice that Lord Salisbury referred casually to their present exclusion when he said,—"Nearly all people—all men, at least,—who desired the franchise, are now included in it;" and he then went on to suggest that a new political era is opening in which the great effort would be not to go on pumping away at this barren and exhausted stratum of political desire, but to turn to social account the political victories already won. That looks as if Lord Salisbury were no longer so much disposed to take up the policy of striving to bring a new host of political Amazons onto the battlefield, but were becoming aware that there is no real desire, even among the women of the masses themselves, to be enlisted in the ranks of the political voters, knowing, indeed, as they probably do, that they are far more influential politicians if they preserve their political incognito, and do not attempt to provoke a battle of the sexes, than they would be if they attempted to unsex themselves and to carry by mere numerical majorities measures on which their husbands and sons and brothers are not agreed with them. That silence of Lord Salisbury's is a very hopeful sign of the times. We have no doubt that the experience of the Primrose League, which includes many women of the masses in its ranks, has convinced him that the shrewder politicians amongst women have no desire to weaken their real influence in politics by measuring too openly their strength against the political strength of men. And we heartily welcome the neglect with which Lord Salisbury now passes over that possible though negligeable prospect of reviving the old franchise war.

Now what are the signs which appear to show that Lord Salisbury is right in anticipating a great transfer of political energy from questions which involve great constitutional revolutions to questions which touch the ground of social amelioration? In the first place, the conspicuous success of the Irish party in exchanging the political for the agrarian field of battle is a most significant sign of the times. Never did a rather tepid politican make a bigger mistake than Mr. Justin M'Carthy made the other day when he snubbed Mr. Horace Plunkett with the remark that he could not join in any enterprise even for the social benefit of Ireland with a party that did not take Home Rule for the very basis of its political demands. That was not using Mr. Parnell's experience of the fruitfulness of the agrarian cry, but deliberately ignoring it. We all know that it was not till Mr. Parnell "took off his coat" to commence the land agitation that he really succeeded in organising his new Irish party. And it was not until the Unionists took off their coats for the organisation of a peasant proprietary in Ireland that they succeeded in finding the true antidote to the land league poison. We may depend upon it that it will be the social amelioration of great classes which will prove the key to the legislative successes of the future. Even the English peasantry perceive it. The Independent Labour party, though they blindly grasp at imaginary reforms, which they only see dimly, and, as it were, in dream, are so convinced that Mr. Parnell was right, that they too are attempting, in a very clumsy and fumbling way, to imitate his policy, and to dissever their connection with mere political agitation. They aspire to be Socialists in the first instance, and politicians only in the second place; and though their Socialism is wild and mischievous and will certainly alienate a great many more electors than it will conciliate, they are so far right that they recognise social amelioration, if they could only make up their minds what social amelioration ought to aim at, as far more important than any agitation in the direction of constitutional subversion. Nothing was more remarkable in the last general election than the evident disgust felt for a new and barren effort at political revolution. Lord Rosebery's failure to elicit even a faint response to his attack on the House of Lords was far the most significant feature of the great struggle. The new desire of the electors is for a little more well-being in the lower strata of our society. Those who see what can be effectually done in that direction, and only those, will be the heroes of the next great popular struggle. The new era will be an era of social amelioration.

And a very delicate business it will be to find the true line of least resistance. Both Lord Salisbury and the Duke of Devonshire see that. For it will be only too easy to aim at social amelioration and to produce instead social deterioration. Of this we are perfectly sure, that any subversion of the rights of individual property in the lowest stratum of society would produce social deteriorations, and, moreover, social resentments of a very bitter and lasting kind. Here, at least, the Independent Labour Party are making the biggest mistake that any party ever could make. Nothing is more deeply rooted in the English mind, and especially in the mind of the poorest English class, than the ambition to exercise the rights of individual property freely and prudently. There the labourer agrees heartily with the small tradesman, and the small tradesman with the large tradesman, and the large tradesman with the merchant prince. It will require the greatest possible discrimination and the most careful exploring of the ground to take forward steps in the policy of ameliorating the condition of the poor without deteriorating the condition of the saving working man and the small shopkeeper. The so-called Liberal party are making a very great mistake when they chuckle over the anxieties of Lord Salisbury and the Duke of Devonshire, and hint that it takes a thoroughgoing democrat to benefit the poor, and that it can only be done by those who will not scruple at effecting their purpose at the cost of the rich. On the contrary, we believe that Lord Salisbury is quite right when he says that anything which permanently stops accumulation in the richer classes will impoverish the poor even more fatally than it will impoverish the rich. If the so-called Liberals do not show the caution and discrimination which the Prime Minister and the Duke of Devonshire enjoin, in their attempts at social amelioration they may certainly get a premature and disastrous victory over the present Government at the next general election, but they will bring on themselves later a terrible and sudden retribution. The fatal consequences of a policy of spoliation would be soon detected and severely punished by a British democracy.

## THE STORY OF A HAIR-BREADTH ESCAPE.

### THE ATTACK ON THE CONSULS AT JEDDAH.

### COLONEL RICHARDS'S NARRATIVE.

Even the short-memoried British public (says the *Westminster Gazette*) has not entirely forgotten the dastardly and cowardly outrage on its representatives at Jeddah when a party of armed Bedouin murdered her Majesty's Vice-Consul, Dr. Abdur Razzack, and cruelly wounded the British and Russian Consuls and a member of the French Consulate. Hearing that Mr. Consul Richards had recovered from his wounds and had come home to recuperate, I sought him out (writes a representative) and obtained from him a complete and circumstantial account of the outrage. Owing to a magnificent constitution, he is now fairly recovered, and looks well and hearty, but one can imagine the terrible shock he experienced. His statement is as follows:—

On the 30th May I left the consulate about half an hour before sunset, accompanied by Dr. Abdur Razzack, her Majesty's vice-consul. We quitted the town by the Medina gate, and strolled out past the barracks in the direction of the Medina-road, being at no time at a greater distance than three-quarters of a mile from the town. After stopping for a short time in a garden belonging to one of the notables of the city, which lies on the outskirts of the desert, we retraced our steps towards the town until we reached the "Bench," as it is called—a circular masonry seat built some ten years ago by the members of the European colony for the use and behoof of such of them as might feel inclined to rest thereon on their way to or from the town. This "Bench," which is less than half a mile distant from the Medina gate, has for years served as a place of rendezvous for the few Europeans settled in Jeddah, and one was pretty certain to meet some members of the colony there any evening one chose to walk in that direction. It was considered a perfectly safe place, being only 500 yards from the barracks. On the evening in question we met there M. Brandt, the Russian Consul, as well as M. Dorville, the *Chancellor* of the French Consulate. We sat down, lighted our cigarettes, and began chatting about one thing and another—the Russian being seated on my right and the Frenchman on my left, while Dr. Abdur Razzack took his place opposite, with his back towards the town, which we were facing. The sun set shortly after our meeting, and the moon rose, so that the light was not very great, although an Eastern moon gives a far more brilliant light than anything we are accustomed to in England. It was about a quarter to 7 when we first noticed a body of eight men, apparently Bedouin, coming straight towards the "Bench" from the direction of Mecca gate. They were then not much more than 40 yards distant, and were walking fast. We noticed that they were all armed with the long Arab gun, and although it was common enough to see small parties of Bedouin returning from the town to the desert at about this time, it was somewhat unusual to see so many in a body armed with guns. We commented on this to one another, and Dr. Razzack, who, as I said before, had his back to the town, turned round and examined them, without, however, making any remark which would lead us to suppose that there was in his opinion any reason for apprehension. This was rather encouraging, because the Vice-Consul, besides being an Oriental himself, had the additional advantage over us of a 13 years' experience at Jeddah, so that the absence of any appearance of anxiety on his part led us to believe that there was nothing to fear. We were not, however, left very long in this false calm, for when about 20 yards off the leader of the band gave a signal, and they started to run at us. We leaped to our feet, and turned to escape, but it was too late, for their guns were up at the shoulder, and they fired a volley almost before they came to a momentary standstill. Most fortunately for myself I instinctively threw myself down on my hands and knees as they fired, and so escaped any wound in the head which was the fate of both my Russian and French companions, neither of whom followed my example. I was, however, hit in several places in the left arm, and a ball or a large slug struck me at the base of the neck within a quarter of an inch of the vertebral column, and plunging its way through the muscles of the back, went out again a little lower down. M. Brandt, the Russian, had nearly the whole of his upper jaw carried away by a ball, while M. Dorville was struck right through the nose and upper lip, which was cut open and left hanging by a few shreds. He was also severely wounded in the left shoulder. Dr. Abdur Razzack, poor fellow, was shot clean through the head, in addition to receiving a ghastly wound in his right arm, of which a large piece was cut out as though by a knife. His death must have been almost instantaneous.

As we turned to run away I received a parting shot in a most honourable part of my person, which fortunately only made a flesh wound, and the man who gave Abdur Razzack his death wound fired so close to my head that the whole of the left side of my face and the greater part of the back of my head was perfectly black with powder, and thickly covered with bleeding lumps, out of which the surgeon a few days later extracted one by one the grains of powder. I mention this somewhat trivial circumstance in order to show how narrow was my escape, for had the wound in my neck been a quarter of an inch to the left the ball would have struck the spinal column, and, of course, would have killed me. This was pointed out to me afterwards by the doctors.

Streaming with blood as we were, we three, myself last, staggered off at a slow run in the direction of the town. I had only covered a few yards when I stopped and half turned to go back, thinking that I ought not to desert Abdur Razzack. On reflection, however, I proceeded slowly on my way, being absolutely without weapons of any sort or kind, even my stick having been left on the beach. On my way towards the town I had to pass in front of the barracks, which are situated a hundred yards or so from the main track, at the top of some rising ground. I shouted for help as I began the ascent, and fortunately was heard by a young fellow—a Tyrian Moslem, employed in the French Consulate. He rushed down and gave me his arm, so that I was able slowly to make my way to the barracks. Arrived there, I explained what had happened to the few Turkish officers and men whom I found, and begged them to go out to Abdur Razzack's assistance. This, however, the officers repeatedly refused to do, alleging that they had no orders to leave the barracks. Seeing that my entreaties were addressed to deaf ears, I asked for some linen to bind up my bleeding arm; but as this was not forthcoming, I left the place with a volley of, I am afraid, some extremely unparliamentary language. As we were passing through the Medina gate we met the Colonel in command, who, having heard the shots, was on his way to the barracks, with a sword in his right hand and a revolver in his left. He, certainly, dashed off and mounted his horse, and with a few troopers scoured the country all round the "Bench," but to no purpose, for the assassins had rushed to their "hajins," or running camels, which had been tethered about 200 yards away, and doubtless were by this time far away in the limitless desert. In the meantime I had met my servants, who had got wind of the affair, and I was half-led, half-carried home, and was soon in the surgeon's hands. My comrades in misfortune had also been found and brought in, and, there being at that time a considerable number of doctors in the town owing to the appearance of cholera at Mecca, we did not lack medical assistance.

As regards the motives of the outrage, it is difficult to speak with any degree of certainty, because its authors have never been arrested, and therefore the explanations offered officially and otherwise are merely conjectural. It has been suggested—and the suggestion is somewhat probable—that the assassins were labouring under the mistake that we were quarantine doctors, against whom there was a great deal of ill-feeling among the Bedouin, and, indeed, the Arabs generally—it being openly asserted and currently believed among them that they (the doctors) were the willing instruments of the Turkish Government for the dissemination of cholera and the conquest of the Bedouin, who are a source of endless trouble to the Porte. This act of extermination, so ran the rumour, was to be effected by means of disinfecting machines, two of which were being worked at Mecca. Certainly it is an undoubted fact that almost simultaneously with the attack upon us an organised raid was made on the cholera hospital at Mecca, which was looted and partially destroyed, the doctors having to run for their lives. The machines, too, were dragged out by the mob and literally smashed to pieces.

The objections to this theory are twofold. In the first place, the doctors always wear the fez, whereas we, of course, with the exception of Dr. Abdur Razzack, were wearing sun helmets. In the next place, the doctors very rarely came to the "Bench," whereas we, Consuls and others, used to go there nearly every evening, and were known to do so.

Another explanation is that we were attacked as officials, and more especially as Consuls, because we were known to be striving for a rigorous observance of all sanitary and quarantine regulations. According to a third theory, the attack was really made by emissaries of the Grand Shereef of Mecca on Dr. Abdur Razzack, whom he personally detested, and that we were shot because we were in his company. There may be something in this, but it owes its existence in all probability to the fortuitous circumstance that the poor man alone was killed. This, of course, was the merest chance; any one, or all four of us, might have shared his fate.

Another story (and this, I believe, is the version which finds the most favour in Turkish official circles) makes out that the assassins had been in the town in order to murder the Governor, who, fortunately for himself, had gone to Mecca, and that, disappointed in their lust for blood, they made for us in order not to return with an empty game-bag! But this seems to me to be very improbable.

But whatever doubt there may be as to the motives of the attack, there can be very little with regard to its authors, whose identity is well known to the Turkish local authorities. They belong to the Sohaf branch of the Harb tribe of Bedouins—even their names and their usual camping-ground having been a matter of, I might almost say, public notoriety when I left Jeddah. Unfortunately, the Harb tribe is very powerful, its fighting strength being estimated at 8000 men—that is, if the whole tribe espoused the cause of the assassins, which it would seem is likely to be the case. When it is considered that the greatest number of troops the Turks can spare from the force now stationed at Hedjaz, for the formation of a punitive expedition against the Bedouins, does not exceed 1200 men, it will be be understood how difficult a matter it would be to bring the criminals to justice. In any case, the fact remains that nothing has been done in that direction so far, although five months and more have elapsed since the commission of the outrage.

Such is the vivid account which Mr. Richards gives of the attack on himself and his companions. His lucid explanation of the possible motives for the crime will have the effect of making people think that it is about time that something more tangible than explanation should be forthcoming from the Turkish Government. A British Vice-Consul cruelly murdered, and a Consul severely wounded, are surely sufficient excuse for exercising something more than mere ordinary pressure on the Porte.

## *THE INVENTOR THE PRODUCT OF CIRCUMSTANCES.*

A suggestive argument, likely (says the London *Standard*) to be received with some reserve by the more ardent admirers of scientific skill, occupied a great portion of the interesting and far-reaching address delivered on 12th November by Sir Benjamin Baker, as president of the Institution of Civil Engineers. The speaker contended that mechanical inventions and engineering achievements, fraught with important consequences to mankind, flow naturally from the demand for such appliances. The steam-engine, the railway, the electric telegraph, and other marvels of our day are "the ordinary consequences of the law of demand and supply." The brilliant career of Watt, for instance, lends no support to the theory that the progress of the human race is dependent upon the periodic appearance on the stage of some actor of inspired genius. The man who invents, and who develops his invention, is himself the product of circumstances. When the world wants him he is bound to appear, and what the world wants it is sure to get. In the days of Columbus nobody asked for a clipper ship, hence there was none forthcoming, and the illustrious voyager "blundered across the Atlantic" in a carved and decorated "sarcophagus" just 70ft. long. Our ancestors were content to go through the world at a walking pace, but in these days we ask for something more, and take even our pleasure at high speed, by rail, steamboat, or bicycle. The Institution of Civil Engineers, with its splendid new building, in which Sir Benjamin Baker yesterday gave this inaugural address, is itself a natural result of the growth of the engineering profession and the need that was felt for mutual intercourse and assistance. The institution has developed the profession, but has not created it. From the theory thus laid down, the world at large may draw some satisfactory conclusions. If the demands of every age, whether warlike or peaceful, "have always proved capable of realisation," it bodes well for the future, since no one pretends that we have got all we want. Better things are coming, for one step leads to another; and when Sir Benjamin Baker makes the inventor or the engineer the mere result of the age, he yet claims that enormous material and moral progress accompanies the growth of engineering works. Each advance affords but a new point of departure. Fresh wants are created, and Science lends her ready aid to bring fresh supplies. The doctrine that human progress is the outcome of a supply in response to a demand is, after all, only a philosophic rendering of the homely proverb, that "necessity is the mother of invention." But although the engineer, the mechanician, the chemist, and all the scientific fraternity stand ready to help us, will their resources never fail? Will the steam-engine never want for coal; and, if coal fails, what becomes of the dynamo, together with things in general? The answer is, that when our coalfields are exhausted—and, of course, that means the coalfields of the world—"doubtless other sources of power will be in full operation." Where these sources are likely to be found is just hinted at, and we are told of "the borderland of engineering" where physicists are busy, and where electricity is subject to research. There are "inconceivably great stores of energy around us." The globe we live on is spoken of as a huge fly-wheel, so that if we could only draw upon its momentum there would be power enough for ages to come, without any appreciable reduction of speed in the earth's revolutions, or in the length of the day. As for the sun, had it been a solid lump of coal it would have burnt itself to a cinder millions of years ago. But the great orb keeps itself warm by simple contraction of bulk. Just a squeeze, now and then, develops sufficient energy to stoke up the fire. There is, however, one question yet to be dealt with. If the engineers keep the world in its course, what will be the good, if they spoil the concern? Is it to be ultimately covered with factories, and gripped with girders, and generally converted into a sort of engine-shed? This is a delicate point, and Sir Benjamin says we must be educated up to it, so as to recognise beauty in the fitness of things. At present there are people who fail to see anything to admire in "a lattice girder," however well proportioned it may be. This lack of appreciation, we are told, is due to "unfamiliarity and ignorance," and will vanish on closer acquaintance. It may be so, but we doubt it.

## *A "HUMAN" HORSE.*

### ALPHA AND BETA AT THE AQUARIUM.

When the great "Mohammed" arose on the horizon of the Aquarium habitué, it was said (remarks a London paper) that the art of training horses could go no further. But that was a mistake. The *haute école* where horses acquire knowledge and wisdom is a progressive establishment, and the educational possibilities therein no one seems as yet to have fathomed. Mr. Shaw, however, who appears the other afternoon for the first time before the British public with his "human" horse "Alpha," has gone a good deal further than any other master in the high school for horses, and his pupil certainly does some astonishing things. Alpha is a handsome creature from the tip of his nose to the end of his tail. He has a fine pedigree, and is plainly quite conscious of being a thoroughbred horse. His glossy light chestnut coat suits him to perfection, and he has that look about his eyes and ears which makes Mr. Shaw's assurance almost superfluous that Alpha has a very wilful temper. Alpha himself gives you to understand this very soon.

He trots on to the stage, and fascinates you at once. Whatever you may think of the "humanity" of his tricks, it is very sure that the look in his black, eager eyes is almost painfully human. Especially is this the case when the big blackboard is brought in, and he is asked to show his arithmetical powers. It might be the soul of some wilful, spirited schoolboy that looks out of the creature's eyes, as he turns to the figures, thinks a moment, apparently, and then paws out on the floor, figure after figure, till his subtraction, or addition, or multiplication sum is correctly done. Sometimes he makes a mistake, and with an impatient shake of his mane, and a vicious light in his eyes, he begins again, and rights wrong. Somehow, the British mind refuses to believe that a horse, even of the Alpha breed, actually "does sums"; one suspects some hidden trick by which the trainer causes his horse to make certain signs that look like the result of thought. But whether or not Mr. Shaw employs these "artistic" means, the result is certainly most striking, and if trick there be, it is concealed in a most marvellous manner.

Alpha also plays the harmonium, and his rendering of "God Save the Queen" on an enormous keyboard is a startling performance, and a more correct one than in many other cases. The clever creature also selects letters from the alphabet, tells the time, plays a game of nap, and fires a gun, for which latter feat, strange to say, he shows a decided predilection. The performance ends with a grotesque transformation of the beautiful horse into a nurse in skirts, white apron, tartan shawl, and gorgeous poke-bonnet. We like Alpha least in this part, which, however, will probably be considered the most amusing of all. Little Beta, a fat two-year-old pony, which is only just being trained for an artistic career, is caused to sit on its haunches in a perambulator, and the nurse Alpha wheels him across the stage.

## ELEPHANTS AT SCHOOL.

The first few days of the captive life of elephants pass in bitter agony, despair, and starvation, says a correspondent in the *Friend of India*. Bound with strong ropes, tied round their bodies, necks, and feet—a circumstance quite unprecedented in the history of their past life—they feel quite uneasy. They refuse to take food or drink water. But how long will they combat that strong enemy—hunger? Sooner or later they are overpowered by it. They then show a strong craving for food, which is thrown to them by mahouts from some distance. As habit is second nature, they soon become accustomed to this mode of life. Besides, the innumerable elephants surrounding them, make them forget their homes, and the miserable life of slavery they are henceforth destined to lead. From the very beginning they are taught to fear their master's "sarkies." No sooner are these weapons levelled at them, however insubordinate they be, than they immediately behave properly.

As they grow more and more familiar, the mahouts approach nearer and nearer to them, give them food with their hands, dressing their wounds, &c., and thus making them believe they are friends and well-wishers. They yet remain very sensitive to the slightest touch. Unless this tingling sensation is removed, to get on their back is impossible. To attain this object, the mahout has recourse to the process of "Khajlana," which literally means scratching, while the "sarkiwallas" remain standing in front. The mahouts with pointed bamboos and "sarkies" gently scratch their bodies, and then rub them with grass. While this operation is going on, they repeat, in a musical tone, something like an incantation, which generally begins and ends with the word "Allah." When they are subjected to this process, the elephants feel a sensation of tingling and become so restless that they try to lie down or break the chain; but their front feet being too closely tied they can do neither. Thus gradually their bodies become insensible.

When they have made a considerable advancement in this branch of their education, their masters give them the important lesson how to carry their mahouts on their neck or back. In the meantime, if you wish to lead them from one place to another, you must get the help of the "koonkies," who will escort these hugh prisoners from gaol to gaol as our police constables escort human prisoners. Their batons are the huge tusks of the "gondas," with which they deal severe blows to them when they are refractory.

During my recent visit to Dacca, I had been invited by my friend, the agent of the Government Philkhana, to witness the breaking of a huge "makhna" (*i.e.*, male without a tusk) elephant. He was the biggest animal in the whole herd, measuring 9ft. 6in. in height. He had been caught in a peculiar manner. In broad daylight he came out of the forest to pay his addresses to his lady love, a "koonkie" of the Khedda party. While thus engaged in his *affair d'amour*, unmindful of what was going on around, he was surrounded by eight "koonkies," and the mahouts immediately tied his four legs. When he had been thus fettered he came to his senses; but it was then too late. It was this animal which was ridden that day. Two "koonkies" were tied on both sides. A tusker was placed behind, being tied to one of the hind legs of the prisoner. The "sarkiwallas" and "lathiwallas" were placed in front and on the flanks. When everything was thus ready, the mahout, a strong-built, fat fellow, cautiously rode astride on his neck, and immediately the signal was given to let loose the chain. The "sarkiwallas" raised a shout, the "lathiwallas" beat him severely, and lo, the frantic monster, with deep groans, raised his trunk in air, exhibited his wild manners, and began to run furiously onward. He was made to fly off from this scene of incessant crying and shouting. Had he been alone, what mischief would he then have committed! But the "koonkies" checked him at every step, and prevented him from going astray. If he pushed towards the left, the right-hand "koonkie" pulled, while the left-hand one pressed him. If he turned on the right side, he experienced the same pressure. If he ran forward at a faster rate the tusker pulled him from behind. Thus, you see, he was bound to move in accordance with the wishes of the fellow-companions. On the first day they are generally made to move a little faster; for, if there be any defect in them, it would at once be detected.

The elephant would then be taught to halt at the bidding of his mahout, who would utter a particular word of command, make a smart thumping on his head, the "sarkiwallas" would level their "sarkies" at him, and the elephant would immediately come to a stand. They would then begin the operation of "khajlana" on him. Repetition of these things make the untamed beasts familiar with the language of command of their masters. They are further taught to sit down, to lift up their mahouts by their trunks, to break branches of trees, to bring their own food, and so forth. In short, they become perfectly trained within a year's time. They are then fit for war, shikar, riding, state procession, or any other work you would choose to employ them in. Having thus completed their school career, they enter the world—in the service of rajahs and nawabs, shikaris, and commissariat officers, and perform many useful and notable acts.

The biggest of these Indian elephants is not more than 9ft. 6in. to 9ft. 8in. Mr. Sanderson, a very inquisitive gentleman, who was not to be satisfied with second-hand reports, had once to travel a good way, at his own cost, to see an elephant in the Philkhana of a rajah, which was really 12ft. in height, and that was the only instance in his life in which the report had been justly verified.

Elephants are very social in their nature. They love one another dearly. Unlike other animals, they are not jealous of the young ones. They caress and fondle them with their trunks, as if they were their own. When these young ones play about their mothers' feet they move very cautiously, lest the tender limbs of their children receive any injury. If these young elephants quarrel among themselves the mothers separate them and settle their differences. In this respect they are superior to many men, who, instead of settling these trifling disputes thus amicably, take the side of their respective children and bring about a breach of family peace and comfort. They love quiet, shady places. They sleep but for a short time in the dead of night, when nature is still and undisturbed. The slightest stir, the flying of a crow, or the running of a fox would awake them. When marching they keep their young ones in the centre, perfectly protected from the attacks of tigers, who follow them and love their flesh. They are very fond of those who treat them kindly. The mahouts generally keep their children sleeping near them without the least fear of their being badly treated by their huge charges. They blow the flies from the bodies of such children, rock them gently with their trunks, and prevent them from any danger. But, if you cut jokes or play tricks with them, they feel themselves very much insulted, and if you continue this habit, surely some day or other you would pay the debt with your valuable life. They are noted for their sagacity and are expert swimmers. They easily cross rivers like the Brahmaputra and the Pudda. When they swim they generally submerge their whole body, for which reason the mahouts sometimes experience much difficulty. They keep water reserved in their stomachs, and when they feel intense heat they pump the water out and sprinkle over their bodies. They tread cautiously and noiselessly. They would not cross a bridge which is likely to give way under their massive weight. They realise the unsafe condition of a bridge by smelling the ground. They see very well in the dark. The "koonkies" seldom conceive during their captivity. The young they beget are the fruits of conception in their jungle life. They remain pregnant for 24 months.

Young elephants are beautiful to look at. You will certainly be delighted to see those huge babies of five maunds' weight playing and dancing round their mothers, applying their tiny trunks to their mother's breast when hungry, lying down and rolling on the grass, and with their legs pushing their mothers. They like to play with boys very much. If you pinch them or pull them by the tail, they become very angry, and would like to give you a gentle push with their little foreheads. They like rice boiled in milk very much, though it is sometimes deleterious to their health, causing worms. The old ones live principally on grass and edible roots. At Dacca they give them only grass. The *chanrals* daily supply 20 to 25 boats of grass. They get remuneration for their labour. They procure grass from waste lands free of cost. The Government keeps more than a thousand acres of grass land of its own reserved for cases of emergency. The koonkies fetch it from the ghât for themselves as well as for those who are yet new. The *chanrals* heap the bundles of grass on their back without fastening them, and the animals tread so cautiously that not a single bundle falls down. And for this labour they must be supplied on their way with a bundle of grass. Too much feeding on barks and leaves of *peepul* tree causes blindness, and, therefore, ought to be avoided. They get rice and *ghee* when ill.

A *gonda*, when he is passionate, is out of his senses. He is intractable, frantic, and fond of the company of a particular female. The mahouts know this beforehand; for at that time a kind of juicy liquid continues to flow from the two sides of his temple, and its scent is so very strong that you may smell it from a long distance. When they are passionate they must be kept confined for at least three months and properly treated before they are fit for further use.

They live to a good long age; at 50 they are only youths. When they are above 100 they become too old for work.

We find mention of them in the oldest Sanskrit works. They are the only race among the mammals of the Proboscida order still extant. They were then, as they are now, used for purposes of war, for carrying guns, stores, &c., for State processions, for shooting tigers, and for crossing muddy roads.

Their tusks are utilised in making costly ivory articles, such as blades of knives, chains, chairs, chamurs, chests, combs, choories, dice, dolls, hooka pipes, settal patty, sticks, tablecloths, &c. The tusks weigh from 15 seers to more than a maund each, and they are sold at 10r. to 12r. a seer. The hind legs can also be used to prepare ladies' needle or jewellery boxes, pân-dâns, &c., after regular tanning, varnishing, and mounting. Good paper-weights can be made of their molar teeth. The *kavirajes* use the skin as a valuable medicine for leprosy. The proverb "a dead elephant is worth one lakh of rupees" is not correct; for, after death, their bones become porous and quite unfit for valuable articles.

NESTLE'S FOOD IS AN ENTIRE DIET for infants. It supplies all the elements necessary for the complete nourishment and growth of the human frame. It is recommended by the highest authorities on infant feeding as the nearest equivalent to mother's milk. It is prepared by the simple addition of water.—[ADVT.]

REMEMBER, Anti-Fermentine Prevents Fermentation and Loss in all Fruits, Preserves, Pickles, Milk, Butter, &c. For Sale by all Storekeepers.—[ADVT.]

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## SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—December 25.

Burrawong (s.), 391 tons, Captain R. Taplin, from Macleay River 24th December. Passengers—Mesdames Warren, Myhill, Gleeson, Rogers, Pinkston, Bennett, Kingham, Sisters of Mercy (3), Misses Hillyer, Duck, Stanford, Messrs. W. Warren, Kingham, Bennett, P. C. Hill, T. Kerrigan, Pinkston, A. W. Ballard, R. Argent, Burls, Lennard, Sinfield, R. Rudder, H. Powick, Myhill, W. Byrnes, H. Hennessy, and 15 in the steerage. North Coast S. N. Company, Limited, agents.

Kallatina (s.), 683 tons, Captain Magee, from Grafton 24th instant. Passengers—Mrs. Ensby, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Bevis, Mrs. Gregg, Miss Wilson, Miss M'Loughlin, Miss Bell, Miss Bevis, Miss Gregg, Messrs. S. Marcolino, W. Crisford, T. Ensby, A. C. Barry, H. Alkin, H. J. Foster, A. Cadell, R. Duncan, Master Gregg, and 17 in the second cabin. North Coast S. N. Company, Limited, agents.

Tomki (s.), 589 tons, Captain H. Jackson, from Richmond River 25th December. Passengers—Misses Burgess (2), Darcy, Josephs (2), Messrs. Yabsley, Josephs, Burgess, 10 steerage. North Coast S. N. Company, Limited, agents.

Chindera (s.), Captain J. Pearson, from Tweed 23rd December. G. W. Nicoll, agent.

Leahi, barque, 557 tons, Captain Johnson, from Eureka, Humboldt Bay. J. I. Falk and Co., agents.

Alice May, schooner, 183 tons, Captain Champion, from Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands. Hordern Brothers, agents.

Pukaki (s.), 1444 tons, Captain W. A. Pearce, from Newcastle. F. W. Jackson, agent.

Newcastle (s.), 1251 tons, from Newcastle. Newcastle and Hunter River S. S. Company, Limited, agents.

Talune (s.), 2020 tons, Captain Phillips, from Newcastle. F. W. Jackson, agent.

IMPORTS.—December 25.

[A special charge is made for consignees' notices in this column.]

Kallatina (s.), from Clarence River: 101 bags potatoes, 174 bales wool, 40 cases eggs, 2 cases fish, 1 cask tallow, 2 coops poultry, 28 hides, 6 cans cream, and sundries.

Burrawong (s.), from Macleay River: 110 bags maize, 3 bags horns, 26 bags bones, 10 bags turnips, 113 bags potatoes, 1 calf, 11 cases eggs, 1 case fish, 8 coops poultry, 74 hides, 24 cans cream, 3 kegs butter, 1 pig, and sundries.

Alice May, from Norfolk Island: 306 bags of small pickling onions, 175 casks of whale oil, 2 hides, 4 bags of seeds, 1 box of plants, 4 cases of seeds.

Electra (s.), from Richmond River: 12 bags oysters, 30 bags potatoes, 1 bale skins, 18 cases eggs, 46 cases fruit, 13 cases honey, 2 casks tallow, 4 coops poultry, 20 hides, 215 cases and 10 kegs butter, 6 logs pine, 50,000ft. sawn timber, 25 pieces beech, 30 pigs, 800ft. boxwood, and sundries.

Chindera (s.), from Tweed, via ports: 1430 bags sugar, 11 hides, 30 bags bones, and sundries.

Captain Taplin reports that the steamer Burrawong crossed the Macleay bar at 12. 5 p.m., and arrived in Sydney at noon of the 24th. Experienced variable winds and showery weather during the passage.

The barque William Manson yesterday left Newcastle for Auckland.

Captain Magee reports that the steamer Kallatina crossed the Clarence bar on Tuesday at 6.50 a.m., and arrived in Sydney on Wednesday at 9.30 a.m.

MAIL STEAMERS.

The R.M.S. Oceana arrived from Sydney; Glenelg (s.), from Devonport.

R.M.S. Australia arrived at Albany from Colombo at 6 a.m. to-day.

THE LOSS OF THE KUNGPAI.

One of the most harrowing incidents (says a report) connected with the recent destruction of the Chinese transport Kungpai by fire and explosion was the manner of the death of the chief officer. Mr. Frõm, the sole European survivor, gives these details:—After the remains of the vessel had heeled over it gradually filled and finally sank on an even keel. Mr. Frõm and those who could made for the rigging, and as the vessel righted while going down they climbed up out of reach of the water, which they thought would come up to them, as they did not know how far she would sink. After being about 10 minutes in the rigging Mr. Frõm saw the chief officer, Mr. Ljunglöf, coming aft. He crawled upon the fallen funnel, and Mr. Frõm called to him to come to us on the rigging, but he said he could not because he had broken his leg. Mr. Frõm then saw that he was bleeding profusely, and tried to get down to him, but could not because there were so many soldiers below him. From loss of blood Mr. Ljunglöf grew weaker, so he tied himself to the stay against the funnel, but that broke, and he was dashed against the mast. He could not reply when called to, and died soon afterwards, but before this happened he drew a ring from his finger and threw it overboard. His body being lashed to the stay did not go overboard, but was washed in and out with the waves, as the weather was beginning to get rough. Whether he bled to death or died from drowning it is hard to say. The last time Mr. Frõm hailed him he did not reply.

THE PRINZ HEINRICH.

The Prinz Heinrich, one of the latest additions to the Norddeutscher Lloyd fleet, and one of the finest vessels afloat in these waters, came in (says the *Singapore Press*) after making an exceptionally good passage, covering the distance in four days and one hour, an average of nearly 15 knots an hour. Captain Schmilder, formerly of the mail steamer Bayern, states that this is the best voyage he has yet made in the Prinz Heinrich, which is an excellent sea-going boat, and he made his record in spite of the stormy weather which prevails in the China Seas. He encountered the monsoon soon after leaving Hongkong, and took what is called the inner passage, about 30 miles to the westward of the Paracels, and from there to Cape Varilla, steering well to the eastward of Saputo Island. For two days he encountered a strong monsoon and high seas, and had to contend with an exceptionally strong current, which he would guarantee was making 50 miles per day, as shown by the difference between his calculated and his true position on one occasion. About 9° north the weather began to moderate, and the remainder of the journey was performed under ordinary conditions. On his way down he passed a Russian boat, which, on account of her two funnels and double upper topsails, was at first mistaken for the Prussian, which was not seen until later, and two coasting vessels off the coast of Annam.

A STEAMER IN DISTRESS.

Captain Street, of the P. and O. s.s. Ravenna (says the *Singapore Press*), which came in this morning, reports that at 4.45 a.m. on the 10th ultimo he observed signals of distress away to the eastward, and standing by he stopped and communicated with the s.s. Taichow, which stated that her engines had broken down, and asked to be taken in tow. At 5.48 he proceeded ahead to the Holt steamer Menelaus, bound for Singapore, and communicated with her, the Menelaus immediately proceeding to the assistance of the Taichow, and taking her in tow. Captain Street stood by until he saw the Menelaus in company with the Taichow, and then proceeded on his way. The weather at the time was fine, but there were the remains of a heavy sea running. The Taichow had a list to starboard and was beam on to the sea. All the boats were in position on the davits, and the ship had apparently sustained no damage. The position of the Taichow was such that Pulau Saputo bore west about 60 miles.

THE ATLANTIC RECORD.

The voyage of the Lucania on the 12th ultimo is thus referred to in advices by the last mail:—The passage, which included a detention of 3½ hours at Queenstown, is the quickest time on record in which passengers have been transferred from London to New York. The Lucania left Queenstown at 8.1 a.m. on Sunday, and arrived at New York at 12.55 p.m. on Friday, after a passage of 5 days 9 hours and 29 minutes. Her daily runs were 86, 531, 534, 536, 544, 531 and 17 knots, or an average of 21·47 knots an hour.

THE NORTH GERMAN LLOYD.

The North German Lloyd Company have ordered two new twin-screw boats for the Bremen-New York line, one to be built at the Vulcan Company's yard, near Stettin, and the other at Schichau's yard at Danzig. Both boats are to have a length of close upon 600ft. and a speed of 20 to 21 knots.

THE TYSER LINE, LIMITED.

The s.s. Star of Victoria left Melbourne at 6 o'clock this morning. Due in Sydney at daylight Friday morning, and proceeds to Moore's Wharf to discharge. Upon discharge of the Sydney portion of her cargo she proceeds to Auckland, N.Z., with balance of outward freight, and loads full cargo of frozen meat and wool for London.

A LONG TOW.

The arrival of the Sharpshooter, of Sydney, in distress was reported, but the following is interesting as to a long tow:—The report to hand says: The hurricane which visited the coast of Lower California and Mexico caught the Sharpshooter and reduced that vessel to the condition of a wreck. She was at Guaymas, where Messrs. Spreckles's tug Fearless went to fetch her up to this port (San Francisco) for repairs. The tow was a long one, 1864 miles.

SALES OF SHIPPING.

The Spanish Compania Transatlantica has lately purchased four packet-boats,—viz., the Arawa, of the Shaw, Savill, and Albion Company; the Avoca and the Jelunga, of the British India Associated Steamers Company; and the Russia, of the Hamburg-American Packet Company. The Pacific Line steamer Sorata, which has been laid up at Liverpool for some time past, has been sold by Messrs. C. W. Kellock and Co. for £4500, and will be broken up. This boat is 4034 tons gross register, and was built at Glasgow in 1872.

CHARTERS.

The following fixtures are noted:—Achilles, ship, from Hamburg to Sydney, with general cargo; Albany, barque, Sydney to Caroline Islands, general; Alf, barque, Adelaide to Natal, wheat and flour; Arctic Stream, ship, Newcastle to San Francisco, coal; Auriga, barque, Newcastle to Port Chalmers, coal; Ben Dearg, ship, Antwerp to Port Pirie, coke; Bohemia, ship, San Francisco to Sydney, general; Bolivia, barque, New York to Brisbane, general; Clairmont, barque, Liverpool to Adelaide, general; County of Peebles, ship, Port Pirie to United Kingdom, ore; Craigmore, ship, Newcastle to San Francisco, coal; Cromdale, ship, Sydney to San Francisco, coal; Devonport, barque, Newcastle to Auckland, coal; Doris Brodersen, barque, Picton to London, general; Dunford, barque, Newcastle to Portland, Oregon, coal; Earl Dunraven, barque, Newcastle to Panama, coal; Genevie M. Tucker, barque, Newcastle to Wellington, coal; Glenfinlas, ship, Newcastle to Lyttelton, coal; Glenlui, ship, Newcastle to Panama, coal; Harvard, barque, Newcastle to Mollendo, coal; Hertha, barque, Sydney to Marshall Islands, general; Iverna, barque, Newcastle to San Francisco, coal; John Ena, barque, San Francisco to Sydney, wheat; Kassa, barque, Kaipara to Adelaide, timber; Ladstock, barque, Adelaide to London, general.

TELEGRAPHIC SHIPPING NEWS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEWCASTLE.—Arrivals: December 24, Loch Doon, barque, from Monte Video. December 25, Namoi (s.), from Sydney; Williams (s.), from Port Stephens; from Sydney; Willie, ketch, from Cape Hawke. Departures: Favourite, Laura, ketches, from Cape Hawke. Departures: December 25: Talune (s.), for Wellington, via Sydney, with 600 tons coal; Burrumbeet (s.), for Melbourne, via Sydney, with 2250 tons coal; County of Cardigan, ship, for Antofagasta, with 1880 tons coal; Hanna Hoyo, barque, for Valparaiso, with 2078 tons coal; the E. A. O'Brien, barque, resumed her voyage for Mollendo; Pasilka (s.), for Singapore, via Melbourne, with 2700 tons coal and 81 horses; Alice (s.), Namoi (s.), Nellie, schooner, Advance, schooner, for Sydney.

ADELAIDE.—Arrivals: December 25, Le Maol, schooner, from Victoria Harbour; Tasmania (s.), Warooнga (s.), from Fremantle. Departures: December 24, Innamincka (s.), for Albany; Orient, R.M.S., for Melbourne; Catherine, barque, for Guam, via Port Pirie. December 25, Orizaba, R.M.S., for London.

CAPE OTWAY.—Passed inwards: December 25, at 11.50 a.m., Celtic King, from Albany to Sydney.

*METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.*

COASTAL WEATHER REPORTS AT 6.30 P.M.

Ballina, S.E., light, fine, sea smooth; Clarence Heads, S.E., light, fine, sea smooth; Woolgoolga, N.N.E., fine, sea smooth; Bellinger Heads, N.N.E., fine, sea smooth; Nambucca Heads, N.E., fine, sea smooth; Macleay Heads, N.E., fresh, moderate; sea Seal Rocks, N.E., strong, fine, sea moderate; Port Stephens, N.E., light, fine, sea smooth; Newcastle, E.N.E., light, hazy, sea smooth; Barrenjoey, N.E., light, dull, sea moderate; South Head, S.S.E., fresh, cloudy sea smooth; Wollongong, S.S.E., strong, thunderstorm with rain, sea moderate; Jervis Bay, S.E., strong, heavy rain squalls, sea rising; Moruya, S., fresh, gloomy, sea moderate; Eden, S.W., fresh, fine, cloudy, sea rough; Green Cape, S.W., strong, cloudy, hazy, sea rough; Gabo Island, S.W., fresh, cloudy, gloomy, sea moderate.

ASTRONOMICAL MEMORANDA FOR DECEMBER 26.

Sun rises at 4.45, sets at 7.6; Moon, 1.54 p.m., 12.4 a.m.; Mercury, 4.57 a.m., 7.26 p.m.; Venus, 2.6 a.m., 5.52 p.m.; Mars, 3.5 a.m., 5.14 p.m.; Jupiter, 9.2 p.m., 7.24 a.m.; Saturn, 1.42 a.m., 3.13 p.m.

Full Moon, 2nd; New Moon, 16th.

High water at Fort Denison, 2.16 a.m., 2.48 p.m.


Special Advertisements.

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Intending proposers should note the above carefully and send in their applications early, either direct or through the Society's Agents, and certainly not later than 31st December, 1895, so as to secure a share of the profits as at that date.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28.

THE SYDNEY MAIL.

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A JOURNAL OF NEWS, POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, MUSIC, AGRICULTURE, AND SPORT.

THE PRESENT WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE SYDNEY MAIL CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING

AMONGST OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS:—
THE MILITARY TATTOO AT THE VICTORIA BARRACKS.

PORTRAIT OF ALDERMAN I. E. IVES, MAYOR-ELECT OF SYDNEY.

PORTRAIT OF MRS. I. E. IVES, MAYORESS OF SYDNEY, 1896.

CHRISTMAS TIME IN ENGLAND.

THE WATER SUPPLY OF OLD SYDNEY.

A MILLIONAIRE'S MARRIAGE:
PORTRAIT OF THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.
PORTRAIT OF MISS CONSUELO VANDERBILT.

THE SEARLE MONUMENT.

THE STEAMSHIP PEREGRINE.

VOLUNTEER OFFICERS' LONG SERVICE MEDAL.

CHRISTMAS TIME:—HERE COMES THE PUDDING.

FASHIONS:—EVENING DRESS.

ILLUSTRATION TO THE REV. BARING-GOULD'S NEW STORY, "THE BROOM SQUIRE."

AND OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS.

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A PICNIC IN MIDDLE HARBOUR.

BLUE MOUNTAIN SCENERY.

SKETCHES OF THE CAMEL TRAFFIC IN AUSTRALIA.

A SKETCH OF CARRENING COVE.

A SETTLER'S HOME IN THE NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT.

A SETTLER'S HOME IN THE BATHURST DISTRICT.

A HOMESTEAD IN THE KANIMBLA VALLEY.

A NEW HEBRIDEAN SING SING GROUND

YACHTING IN SYDNEY HARBOUR.

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A CAMEL TRAIN ON THE PAROO.

The design is by Mr. NORMAN HARDY, Principal of the Art Staff of the Sydney Mail, who paid special visits to the Far West to secure a faithful representation. The beautiful effects of New South Wales scenery are well brought out, the result being a most charming picture. The Lithographing was entrusted to Messrs. Turner and Henderson, Hunter-street, Sydney.

COUNTRY AGENTS who have not already ordered extra copies are specially advised to forward their orders at once. This is absolutely necessary to prevent disappointment.

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DR. ODILLO MAHER HAS RETURNED FROM Europe and resumed practice. 20 College-st.

DR. T. LACHAUME (Grad. Phila. Dental College, &c.), DENTIST, 81 PHILLIP-STREET, CITY.

DR. V. MARANO, having just returned from Europe, has resumed Practice at 287 Eliz.-st. Hours, 10 to 3.

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## THE MAILS.

THIS DAY.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, QUEENSLAND, 9 a.m.
VALPARAISO, 9 a.m.
LAUNCESTON and HOBART, 9 a.m.

FRIDAY.
CLYDE RIVER, 9 a.m.
LAUNCESTON, via EDEN, 11 a.m.
MANNING RIVER, 1 p.m.
WELLINGTON, &c., N.Z., 2 p.m.
PORT MACQUARIE and BELLINGER RIVER, 3 p.m.
RICHMOND RIVER, 7 p.m.
WOOLGOOLGA, 8 p.m.
MACLEAY RIVER, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY.
HOBART and LAUNCESTON, 11 a.m.
MELBOURNE and ADELAIDE, noon.
BRISBANE, 1 p.m.
CLARENCE RIVER, 8 p.m.

MONDAY.
INDIA and EUROPE, 2.30 p.m.
UNITED KINGDOM, 3 p.m.
R.M.S. OCEANA (letters addressed to persons on board), 3 p.m.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 4 p.m.
COFF'S HARBOUR and BYRON BAY, 8 p.m.
NOUMEA, FIJI, and TONGA, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY.
UNITED KINGDOM and EUROPE, SEYCHELLES, MAURITIUS, and MADAGASCAR, 3 p.m.

PARCEL MAIL.

Parcels addressed to the United Kingdom, Egypt, and certain foreign countries via the United Kingdom, will be received at the Parcels Office, 151 Castlereagh-street, for transmission per Orient Company's steamer Oroya, up to 10.30 a.m. on MONDAY, the 30th December. Parcels must not be posted in a letter-box, but must be taken to the Parcels Office, where the necessary declaration as to their contents and value must be signed. Parcels addressed to Fiji and Canada will be received at the Parcels Office for transmission per C.-A. steamer Miowera up to 10.30 a.m. on SATURDAY, 18th January. Parcels addressed to Germany will also be received at the Parcels Office for transmission per German steamer Prinz-Regent Luitpold up to 1.30 p.m. on MONDAY, the 30th December.

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## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

During the holiday time the *Sydney Morning Herald* can be posted direct from this office to persons desirous of having it sent to them to any part of this colony at the rate of 6d per week; or Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, New Zealand, or Tasmania at 9d per week.

# The Sydney Morning Herald.

*THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1895.*

Yesterday, being Christmas Day, was observed as a general holiday, and there was no business transacted in the Stock and Share or Import or Mining markets.

Mr. John Redmond, M.P., has forwarded a cable to the *New York World* stating that in the event of war between Great Britain and the United States the Irish will be solid with America.

It is reported that President Cleveland has stated that he deplores the talk as to the probability of war.

He considers it desirable that the commission which is to be appointed by the United States Government to ascertain the true boundary of Venezuela should make a thorough and an impartial inquiry.

It is probable that Chief Justice Fuller will be appointed president of the commission.

Tammany is unanimous in support of President Cleveland's action in regard to the Venezuelan question.

In Venezuela the feeling against England continues to run very high.

Anti-English meetings are being held at the capital, and all the able-bodied males are being enrolled, to provide, as far as possible, for an efficient army to oppose the British, should there be war.

It is reported that with the view of increasing the revenue by 50,000,000dol. the Committee of Ways and Means of the United States House of Representatives proposes to impose until August, 1898, a duty equivalent to 60 per cent. of the M'Kinley rates on wool and woollens; 25 per cent. increase on cereals, breadstuffs, dairy produce, and live stock; and 15 per cent. on other schedules.

It is also reported to be the intention of the Committee to introduce a bill providing for an unlimited issue of 3 per cent. coin bonds to be devoted to redeeming the currency.

The *New York World* states that President Cleveland planned his Message to Congress on the Venezuelan question six months ago, thus rendering it more monstrous, and making it really a crime.

A leading English author has appealed to the American people in the name of the common ties of blood and literature in favour of peace.

The injury to the railway line, which occurred near Springwood on Tuesday night, has been successfully repaired. Very little damage was done either to the rolling-stock or permanent way.

Incessant fighting has taken place at Zeitoun, in the province of Aleppo, and heavy losses have been sustained by both the Armenians and the Turks.

The Powers have proposed that the Consuls at Aleppo shall mediate between the Porte and the rebels at Zeitoun.

An explosion has occurred on board H.M.S. Repulse, at Chatham, by which nine men were injured.

The death is announced of Sir E. T. Harland, Bart., M.P. for North Belfast.

Very heavy gales have occurred on the coast of Ireland.

The schooner Moresby was wrecked near Dungarvan, 29 miles south-west of Waterford, and 21 of those on board perished.

Among them was Mr. David Mickle, who is said to be a son of a gentleman residing in Melbourne.

Another wreck occurred near Kingstown, also on the Irish coast.

The lifeboat went out to rescue the crew, but the sea was so heavy that the boat was capsized and 15 of the men were drowned.

The shipment of butter per the R.M.S. Cuzco, from Australia, has arrived at London in good condition.

The poultry which was despatched from Australia by the steamer Gulf of Siam has arrived at London in excellent condition.

In regard to the dispute between Mr. Young, late auditor of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, and the directors, Messrs. Turquand and Young have written a further letter to the *Times*.

They explain that Mr. Young informed the chairman of directors on 15th November of the amount of the deficit, but the board of directors had not inserted it in the report.

In commenting upon the subject the *Times* states that the trouble has arisen in consequence of no one person or body being responsible for the entire scheme of reconstruction.

Salvage operations are being carried on at the wreck of the barque Durisdeer at Newcastle.

All the decks have been nearly carried away and most of the ballast washed out of the vessel by the big seas. She is lying on her beam ends, but her hull is intact.

Menzies, which is one of the extensions of the Coolgardie (W.A.) goldfield, has been declared a municipality.

Mr. Walter Douglas, the cyclist, who was reported from Coolgardie as missing in the Lake Darlot district, is safe and sound. He had been delayed four days at Lawler's.

Yesterday the customary Christmas services were held in the cathedrals and principal churches of the city and suburbs.

At St. John's Church, Darlinghurst, and also at the Bourke-street Wesleyan Church, references were made to the difficulty that had arisen between Great Britain and the United States over the Venezuelan boundary question, and the earnest hope was expressed that peace would be maintained.

Through the generous thoughtfulness of friends, both the Sydney Hospital and Prince Alfred Hospital yesterday were decorated with palms and evergreens, and the inmates were provided with various luxuries.

A number of women and children were entertained yesterday at a Christmas dinner at the Benevolent Asylum.

The St. Thomas' Ladies' Benevolent Asylum yesterday supplied 212 dinners to the poor of Balmain.

There were various other benevolent distributions on an extensive scale yesterday among the poor of the city.

Yesterday afternoon two races were sailed, under the auspices of the Sydney Flying Squadron, over the triangular course from Clark Island.

The first event was for 10ft. and 14ft. dingies, and was won by the Young Clive, 10ft., which was admirably sailed by P. Holmes.

In the second race, the Young Harry, 25ft., sailed by H. Pearce, proved the winner.

Dean Cowper, who has been ailing for some months past, had sufficiently recovered to attend St. Andrew's Cathedral yesterday.

The Rev. J. A. Bowring, Wesleyan minister, died at Lithgow on Tuesday night.

The last business of the Legislative Assembly before prorogation was to refer to the Public Works Committee the question of the expediency of constructing six weirs in the River Darling, between Bourke and Brewarrina, northerly of the terminus of our western railway. The reference was carried on the voices. In this matter the proper thing has been done, though it would have been better if the Public Works Committee had taken the subject into consideration before the works at Bourke had been begun. The lock and weir there may cost less than the minimum under the Public Works Act, £20,000; but they are the first portion of a scheme the northern extension of which we now see. No great harm is done, however. The committee will diligently inquire into the proposal on its merits, and, in reporting, the existence of that solitary undertaking near Bourke will not influence the decision. The scheme to be put before the committee contemplates the erection of six locks and weirs in the River Darling. The length of water to be thereby rendered navigable in all seasons is about 175 miles. The works proposed will cost in all £130,000. The objects sought to be attained by this ambitious undertaking are to offer water carriage to the districts adjacent to the northern Darling, to bring goods to the railway at Bourke, and to furnish a sufficiency of water for irrigation.

It behoves the committee to be thoroughly satisfied about the utility of the work submitted, because it is evident that we are touching in an experimental way a great problem, no other than that of altering the regimen of our second greatest river from one boundary of the colony to the other, and converting it into a permanently open waterway. This is not the proposal now before the public. That is much more modest. A glance at the map will show that a mere fraction of the river is to be affected. Below Bourke are the hundreds of miles of stream to Wentworth; above Bourke is half as much to Mungundi on the Queensland border. For reasons of our own we are starting midway, but no farseeing person can conceal from himself that the ultimate object of the Government will be to render permanently open at least all the river Darling in its northern extent that can be commanded by the Bourke railway. We may therefore estimate that the river will, sooner or later, be locked as far as Walgett north, if not higher, and perhaps as far as Wilcannia to the south. Roughly speaking that is four times the distance now contemplated, and in the same ratio of expense the total cost will be well upwards of half a million sterling. The committee will have that in view, for though the Bourke-Brewarrina length is now only in discussion, it is improbable that the Department intends to construct that section, and that alone.

If we had to consider water carriage by itself, the conclusion probably would be that the work would not be worth undertaking. It is expensive: £870 per mile of a river that runs three miles for one direct. That is the first cost. Then there are charges of maintenance which cannot be brushed out of sight, for when in flood the Darling is not a stream to trifle with. The country is sparsely settled, and revenue would not be abundant. We must look for a return from the system of locking, and that will come by tonnage upon goods. In all likelihood that will be a sure source during seasons when but for the locks the river would be innavigable, and the longer the length of river open the more traffic and the more revenue will accrue. For the present the employment of the water for irrigation does not promise much. But we have built a long and costly railway out to Bourke, and the existence of that line simplifies the case for the locking of the river. We are entitled—we are bound—to favourably consider any fair system by which we can convenience our settlers and put them into contact with the railway. If by means of the works now proposed we can offer squatters, homestead lessees, selectors, and other settlers adjacent to the Darling or Barwon a sure and cheap route to and from market, and can urge freight in the direction of our railway, the case for the scheme becomes strong.

The larger possibilities to which reference has been made open up other considerations. It may be a federal work to render the Darling navigable all the year from a point near the Queensland boundary down to the junction of the Murray; but, seeing that New South Wales will be thereby committed to a large expenditure, the revenue from which will be uncertain, we may be excused if we postpone such a work until the cost is made federal too. Water carriage is so much cheaper than steam traction on land, and we already lose so much of the trade of our territory when the river is open, that, considering our expenditure in railways, roads and bridges, and similar works, the Government cannot be blamed if it does not undertake costly schemes that may divert business further. With a river open by flood-water, Victorian and South Australian goods can, it is said, be landed in Bourke at rates showing such a saving on carriage that they compete with railway-carried goods. And with the river open wool comes past Bourke and down to Echuca or Morgan. We have, therefore, to watch closely lest the colony should undertake at its sole cost works that hand over the trade of this territory to intercolonial competitors. We do not object to our settlers getting all the benefit possible from cheap freight of goods and produce. But, chiefly at their representations of the hardships and the losses entailed by an uncertain river and roads frequently waterless, the credit of the whole community has been pledged to build them railways, and it is a duty to make those railways pay by attracting traffic to them, whether by reduced rates of carriage, by new routes such as this of an open river, or otherwise. That is self-evident, and no argument of federal harmony can override it, or persuade us that we ought to facilitate the diversion of produce and supplies away from channels provided at the expense of the colony.

The duties of auditors seem to form a subject for periodical discussion, perhaps more on the other side of the world than on this. With the growth of co-operative enterprise in Australia there is comparatively as much room for its ventilation here as elsewhere. The failures of companies in Sydney and Melbourne have brought under review the conduct and misconduct of auditors. And there is a feeling in the air, here as in England, that everything is not quite as it should be. And while that is the case we need not wonder that auditors and their duties form a recurring theme for controversy. What gives an interest to it at the present time is the action of the auditors of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, who challenged the position of the company in respect of the valuation of assets. The directors had set aside £617,956 for actual and contingent losses. The auditors say that a further sum of £847,910 may be required. The directors, however, felt so confident of their position that they declined to accept the report of the auditors, and threatened to resign should the shareholders endorse it by re-electing Mr. YOUNG, one of the auditors. The meeting accepted the views of the board of management, adopted its report, and elected a fresh auditor.

It would be a mistake to question the free exercise of the important duties it is incumbent on auditors to exercise in their supervision of the affairs of public companies. These officials are appointed by the shareholders to ascertain that, through ignorance, neglect, or fraud, those who have control are not prejudicing their interests, and generally to see that the accounts are properly kept, and irregularities are not introduced into them. While these may be said to represent their principal functions, it must be allowed that auditors are not to be regarded as general managers of the business—as officials who have to value assets and declare dividends. We have only to consider the case of our large banking and other institutions to see how utterly impossible it would be for auditors to go through all the securities with a view to valuation that would be of any worth. "Barrister," discussing the general position of auditors in the *Times*, remarks that "for them it might be possible to check over some book debts and to see that they have not been longer in existence than the custom of the trade warrants, and any specially large item should be inquired into. Cash at bankers could be checked by a certificate; cash and bills in hand can be checked over. But how can an auditor check a stock of goods? He can only take the stockbook as signed by the directors. And how can he value property? He can only take what it costs as shown by the books, providing of course where leaseholds for due depreciation; but where freeholds how can anyone say what property is worth until it is turned into sovereigns?" This criticism, if applied to the case of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, suggests the question, first, who is to determine the value of the assets of the company—the directors or the auditors? Or whether, if the directors, the auditors have the right of review? Just as two Houses of Parliament will get into deadlock if they claim equal rights, so directors and auditors will disagree if they think themselves both entitled to do the same work. That is inevitable, and has occurred where the auditors of public companies have taken an extended view of their functions. As to the questions between the directors and auditors of the company mentioned, the particulars are not sufficient to admit of an opinion being formed.

Next to the question of the sufficiency of audit and the competency of auditors, the main thing to be secured is the proper definition of the duties of auditors. There, as everywhere, mistakes and trouble arise more frequently from divided responsibility, in which the measure of each is not properly determined, than from any other cause. The cable message elsewhere furnishes proof of this. Some auditors construe their obligations on a perfunctory basis; others measure them in a too severe way. In the one case irregularities will almost inevitably arise, unless the officers and the directors are all they should be, and their system is perfect. In the other case there are likely to be friction and quarrelling. Illustrations of both systems of auditing could be furnished from the company experience of this city. Obviously what is wanted is that the duties of auditors should be distinctly set out in the articles of association or by-laws of companies. Auditors will then know what they have to do and what they are responsible for doing. And it would be just as well that when they have done it they should set forth in their balance-sheets a certificate showing exactly what they have audited. The phrase "audited and found correct," which frequently appears on the foot of balance-sheets, may mean that everything has been audited in accordance with the articles of association. But from what has occurred in the past, it is known that it sometimes means less than that, and that the work has been badly done, whether ignorantly or wilfully. For their own protection auditors should append a certificate, as is often done, setting forth exactly what they have audited, and what their name attests they are prepared to stand by. For the information of shareholders and creditors of the company nothing short of this should be allowed. Auditors would avoid trouble and friction with directors by having questions of audit between themselves and directors determined either by shareholders or legal advisers. Not until the scope of the audit required is determined in the articles of association, or otherwise, is there any prospect of a satisfactory settlement of the duties of auditors. The discussion of the question will be interminable. It is too much to expect that the prosecution of an auditor here or there will effect a remedy when the whole system of audit is on the go-as-you-please principle, when anybody can be an auditor, as he formerly could be a schoolmaster. It is too often thought that the possession of a little leisure is all that is required in the candidate for an auditor's position; and while that is the case we must be prepared for irregularities, which a scamp of a secretary or manager can produce by surreptitiously tampering with the books. If the directors or shareholders of public companies generally fail to do their duty in this matter, and it is found that their creditors suffer in consequence, the Legislature, in the public interest, may have to intervene to provide what is lacking. The Institute of Accountants may themselves do good by ventilating the subject.

The Hon. JOHN DOUGLAS, Resident of Thursday Island, has reported to the Queensland Government the exploration of two new rivers recently discovered in the Cape York Peninsula. They are important streams, and the explorer is of opinion that they are not inferior to the Batavia River, which discharges into the Gulf. But the relative importance of the new discoveries is not perhaps the point that is most impressive. It is more striking that at this time there should remain features of such importance as navigable rivers to be discovered even in the scantily populated area of Queensland's Farthest North. We are reminded by these events of the fact, apt to be overlooked, that Australia is not yet fully known. In the last few years a series of discoveries have given to Western Australia a gold-mining period such as Eastern Australia had. Even in our own colony we know that the maps are being filled up. The settlement of Wyalong so recently was a picturesque change, and our columns yesterday contained details of the new gold discovery at Currajong, near Parkes. Sixteen years ago a tank was sunk here, and the excavated stone used as road metal. A few weeks ago a miner obtained permission to sink deeper, the tank having been emptied by dry weather, and he was rewarded by a rich leader. Another striking evidence that our territory still has secrets from us was furnished a few years ago when near Wentworth a tribe of blacks was accidentally met with that had never seen white men, and whose existence was up to then unsuspected. In fact, there is room in Australia yet for a good deal of exploration, and so much is recognised in expeditions like Mr. HORN's to Central Australia lately. There are those who point to the grim regions of the Antarctic, and declare that there lies our undiscovered country. Reports like that of the Government Resident in Torres Strait show that we yet have much to learn about our own continent.

The cablegram yesterday about the death of STEPNIAK has probably impressed many readers with a feeling that such a taking off is but a lame conclusion to a life like his. This man was a Russian agitator of the irreconcilable type, a man who by exile, proscription, and other sacrifice had proved his loyalty to revolutionary ideas, an implacable opponent of the autocracy of the Czars, and one of their most audacious protagonists. If such a man had ended his stormy career in a fortress at St. Petersburg, in the prisons of Siberia, or on a scaffold, that would have seemed congruous. No doubt one of these fates would have been his had he fallen into the hands of the Third Section, the dreaded Russian police. Instead of such a termination, the end was almost commonplace in character. He was struck down in a suburb of London by a train, the approach of which was unnoticed, and died from his injuries. Compared with the perils he so often ran, an accidental death of this sort is tame. As to STEPNIAK himself he was one of a numerous class—how numerous we shall never know—the class of men ruined by the Russian Government, but who in a more happily ruled country would have been prominent and useful citizens. To consider the many capacities of this man, his education, his talents of writing and speaking, his earnest love of liberty and popular rights, and his zeal as a political worker, is to pity the sterility and the frustration to which he was condemned in his own land and to a great degree in the land where he at length found a safe asylum. ALEXANDER HERZEN was a man of a more revolutionary character, but also his great talents were brought to nought or turned into mischievous channels by the Government of his country. Prince KRAPOTKINE is another who, in a well-ordered State, would be a great figure, and he, too, is reduced to impotence in Russia. The list might be extended by all the eminent political exiles of this century, and by many men and women unknown in Western Europe, who have expiated by imprisonment or by the crushing of their characters the offence of loving liberty. Such are the prices that nations pay for despotic government.

ROZELLE BAY RECLAMATION.—The Minister for Public Works, in answer to personal representations made by Mr. S. J. Law, the member for Balmain South, with reference to the necessity for proceeding with the reclamation of Rozelle Bay, in preference to Johnstone's Bay, has intimated that, as there is only one dredge available, and both reclamation works are reported to be urgently required, the Minister has approved of a dredge being worked alternate months at each place. This, it is considered, is the best course to adopt under the circumstances, and will allow the reclamation time to settle and solidify.

THE MAILS.—The English mails, ex Orient, dated London, 22nd November, will be due here to-morrow (Friday), 27th instant, in time for delivery at about 2 p.m.

PEACE FEELING IN AMERICA.—As an indication of feeling in the United States with respect to the subject of peace or war, some interest attaches to the following Christmas cable message from Mr. R. A. M'Curdy, president of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, to Major Rennie, manager of the company in Sydney:—"Christmas greetings and personal remembrances. Peace on earth and good will to men."

A HARBOUR ACCIDENT.—In the southerly burster yesterday a boat belonging to the Conishead, a four-masted barque, while out sailing was struck by the squall, and eventually drifted against the schooner Alice May then inward bound from the islands. A lumpy sea (for the harbour) was on at the time. The crew was picked up by the schooner.

DEAN COWPER.—Dean Cowper, who has been ailing for some months past, suffering from the effects of rheumatism, had recovered sufficiently to attend Holy Communion at St. Andrew's Cathedral at 1 o'clock yesterday. The Dean, who bore traces of his suffering, was led into the Cathedral by two members of his family.

DEPARTURE OF THE REV. P. F. DOWE.—The Rev. P. F. Dowe, who for some considerable time has filled the position of curate at St. Paul's Church, Redfern, and who has recently been appointed to the incumbency at Blackheath, was entertained on Tuesday evening at a social gathering held in St. Paul's schoolroom, Cleveland-street. The Rev. F. B. Boyce (incumbent) presided, and expressed to Mr. Dowe the good wishes of the congregation of St. Paul's Church, as well as of many of the poor of the district of Redfern, for his future success and happiness. Mr. Dowe, in reply, spoke of his work in Redfern, and of the people with whom he had been associated. Speeches were also delivered by Messrs. Hooper and Arnold.

CLERGY WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.—In some of the Anglican churches yesterday collections were made on behalf of the Clergy Widows' and Orphans' Fund for the diocese of Sydney. The offertory at the morning service at St. Andrew's Cathedral was also set apart for this purpose. At present the fund is paying pensions to 11 widows and 6 orphans. Since its formation the sum of £5,619 5s 3d has been disbursed in cases of need of the kind which it is the purpose of the fund to relieve.

AN ALDERMAN ENTERTAINED.—A complimentary social was tendered to Alderman and Mrs. Heaslip and family in the North Botany Town Hall on Friday evening by some of the aldermen of the district. Among the company were Alderman Thornton (Mayor of the district), Alderman F. J. Luland, J.P. (Mayor of Botany), and a number of the leading residents of both boroughs.

EMIGRANTS TO NATAL.—A report from Durban, South Africa, says (on 18th November) that during October 695 European passengers landed there by sea—144 natives, 46 Indians, 210 Arabs, 7 Chinese, and 4 Malays.

A HINT TO HOUSEHOLDERS.—The police desire to warn the general public of the danger of leaving their places unprotected. They say that thieves look forward to a good harvest to-day, and will make very complete inquiries as to the houses which are deserted during the holiday.

A FALL FROM A FENCE.—A lad named Albert Wolfe, aged 10, who resides in Union-street, Erskineville, fell from a fence upon which he was balancing himself yesterday afternoon, and sustained an injury to one of his thighs. He was admitted to the Prince Alfred Hospital.

ACCIDENT WITH A VEHICLE.—While Mr. Henderson, of Franklin-place, Glebe, was driving along Cook's River-road yesterday, on his return from Lady Robinson's Beach, the shaft of his buggy broke, causing the horse attached to it to bolt. In addition to Mr. Franklin there were Mrs. Franklin and three children in the buggy, all of whom were thrown out. Two of the children—one four years old and the other 15 months—were conveyed to Prince Alfred Hospital suffering from shock, but the other occupants of the vehicle escaped with slight injuries.

A SERIOUS FALL.—Frederick Harper, 45, an iron-cutter, residing at No. 59 Clarence-lane, fell from his window, a distance of 50ft., last evening. Constable Saville conveyed him to the Sydney Hospital, where it was ascertained that he had fractured his left arm, injured his back and left hip, and was suffering generally from shock. His condition is critical.

ROUGH ON RATS.—Constable Croff yesterday evening discovered an Italian bookbinder named Louis Mattie at a house in Lymerson-street, St. Peters, suffering from the effects of a dose of rough on rats. He stated that he had been out of work for some time. The constable conveyed him to Prince Alfred Hospital, where the stomach-pump was successfully applied.

DEATH OF AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN.—A man died in Prince Alfred Hospital yesterday whose identity has not been discovered. He had been found by the police at the Waterloo tram terminus, near the waiting-room, shortly after noon on Tuesday, and was then suffering from fits. He was conveyed to Prince Alfred Hospital, where he was found to be unconscious. He remained in the same condition until he died. The deceased appeared to be about 35 years of age, 5ft. 9in. in height, and was evidently a hard-working man.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN AUSTRALIA.—A paragraph in the *Argus* on this subject, dated Ballarat, Monday, says:—The cabled announcement recently made to the effect that a proposal was under consideration of Mr. Chamberlain to form a chartered company to acquire land in the Northern Territory of Australia was referred to to-night in a speech at the half-yearly meeting of the Ballarat East branch of the A.N.A. by Mr. W. J. Kirton, M.L.A., president of the board of directors. Mr. Kirton strongly deprecated any alienation of the territory, and adverting to Lord Kintore's explanation stated that there was a belief among many who took a great interest in the matter that the late Governor of South Australia was acting in the interests of the company. Mr. Kirton counselled united action on the part of the branches, with a view to preventing any such project being realised, as it would lead to the introduction of an alien population, and would be a great obstacle in the way of federal union, which was now within measurable distance. In regard to this later question he referred with gratification to the passage of a Federal Enabling Bill in New South Wales and South Australia and in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria, and trusted that it would go through the Legislative Council. Mr. Kirton's remarks were well received throughout by members of the branch.

GOLD FROM THE NEW GUINEA ISLANDS.—The Brisbane *Courier* has a telegram from its Cooktown correspondent, dated 21st December, as follows:—The schooner Ivanhoe arrived from New Guinea, via Woodlark and other islands, last evening. The Ivanhoe brought 750oz. of gold, 26 bags of beche-de-mer, and 28 cases of pearlshell. Several miners have been awaiting the arrival of the Ivanhoe in order to proceed to Woodlark Island by her. Some excitement was caused in town when it became known that the vessel had brought over so much gold, the supposition being that it all came from Woodlark Island, but inquiries show that only 200oz. came from Woodlark, the remainder coming chiefly from St. Aignan and Sudest. Reports from Woodlark, however, are favourable, and the men there are said to be doing well. Although it would be extremely inadvisable for a large number of men to proceed to the field, the miners here are determined to leave for Woodlark in the Ivanhoe next week.

HORSE TRADE TO JAPAN.—We have already heard that the trial shipment of horses suitable for cavalry purposes from Melbourne to Japan met with very bad weather, and a large number of the horses were killed. How the remainder of the cargo has fared has (says the *Argus*) not yet been announced, but there seems to have been a disposition in Japan to do whatever was possible to encourage the enterprise. The Victorian Minister of Agriculture wrote to the Japanese Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, commending Mr. C. F. Glasscock's enterprise to his notice. Count Eno Motto Takeaki, in reply, states that he has communicated with his colleague, the Marquis Oyama, Minister of State for War, and had instructed the Commissioner of Customs to afford Mr. Burke, who was in charge of the horses, any assistance he might require.

## M. STEPNIAK.

BY ONE WHO KNEW HIM.

As one who lived for many years within a few doors of M. Stepniak I am, perhaps, able to offer a few particulars of the famous exile which are not without general interest in view of the tragic end of his career reported in yesterday's *Herald*.

The level crossing where he met his fate is one where Woodstock-road is crossed by the North London Railway, a line connecting Chiswick and Hammersmith with Acton and thence with Willesden, Hampstead, and the northern suburbs of London. Shortly before reaching the crossing the line sweeps round in a somewhat abrupt curve, and on a dark night—as the writer knows from experience—unless the pedestrian is careful, he runs a risk of finding the passing train much too near to be pleasant.

Stepniak was a denizen of the pretty little model suburb of Bedford Park, Chiswick. Bedford Park was founded some 15 years since by one Mr. Jonathan Carr on a somewhat novel plan. All the houses were to be built in red brick, in the modern Queen Anne style, after the designs of Mr. Norman Shaw, R.A. All the streets were to be lined with trees, those which already existed being preserved even at the expense of convenience. One road, for example, swerves a good five yards out of its course in order to pass between two magnificent willows, which must else have been destroyed. In the centre of the village was built an inn, called, after Chaucer's famous hostelry, the Tabard, with a signboard painted by the well-known pre-Raphaelite artist, T. M. Rooke. Hard by it was a church and a store—the only shop allowed on the estate. Adjoining the founder's house was erected a club, at which dances, debates, and dramatic entertainments were held every month during the season. The colony was at first largely inhabited by the devotees of the aesthetic cult, so admirably satirised in "Patience," but as time went on these good folk disappeared, leaving behind them only a tradition of good taste, which still remains the most distinctive feature of Bedford Park.

In one of the most charming little streets of this quaint little Queen Anne village the Russian exile lived with his wife,—one of the prettiest and most distinguished women that one could meet, and sharing with her husband all his intellectual aspirations. She spoke English with that delightful tinge of foreign accent which makes our language so attractive on the lips of a beautiful Frenchwoman or a Russian lady.

Stepniak also spoke with a strong foreign accent, which to a considerable extent interfered with his eloquence; but in private conversation this was, of course, less noticeable than on the public platform. In society, indeed, he was delightful—always ready to talk, yet never obtrusive of his own opinions, which on most subjects, however far one might dissent from many of his views, were at any rate very well worth hearing.

Among his friends were to be counted all the most intellectual people in Bedford Park—Dr. Todhunter, the well-known author and playwright; Professor Powell, the Regius Professor of History at Oxford, successor to Mr. Froude; W. B. Yeats, the new poet that the *Chronicle* has discovered; the artist, H. M. Paget; and his fellow-countryman, M. Felix Volkhorsky.

The last-mentioned is a man in many respects almost as interesting a personality as that which has just left us. The present writer well recalls the Thursday evening when, some years since, he heard him address a crowded meeting of the Oxford Union. Conservative as that society has always been, and difficult as it often was to follow the speaker, whose English left much to be desired, M. Volkhorsky was listened to with the most profound attention as he unrolled his formidable indictment of Russian administration. He told us how he personally had been imprisoned, merely on suspicion of socialistic sympathies, first for two, then for four, and finally for seven years. "So you see," he said, "there is one sense in which the Russian Government believe in progress!"

His little daughter, Vera Volkhorsky, was often to be found at Stepniak's, and one learnt how, then a child of 10, she had fled hundreds of miles across Russia, disguised as a boy, in order to join her father.

At Bedford Park Stepniak led a very retired life, occasionally addressing meetings at Kelmscott House, the abode of Mr. William Morris, the author of the "Earthly Paradise," contributing to *Free Russia*, and taking the keenest interest in all social and literary questions alike in his own and his adopted country. He was an especial admirer of the drama—indeed it was currently reported that he had written a play for Mr. William Terriss, also, by the way, an inhabitant of Bedford Park.

Whether or not he was mistaken in his political views and in his public life—of this only one intimately acquainted with the social conditions of Russia can possibly judge—Stepniak was, in his private capacity, a man of the utmost culture and refinement, of the most delightful and unassuming manners, and of the most sincere and kindly nature. By all his friends and acquaintances (and they were many) he will indeed be deeply missed. F. P. R.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

COOLGARDIE, Tuesday.

This morning a telegram was received from Mr. W. P. Reed, of Daydawn, on the Murchison, stating that Douglass, the missing cyclist, was delayed at Lawler's four days, and is now on his return journey via Mount Malcolm and Niagara.

Mr. Montagu Butler, a Tasmanian solicitor, died yesterday in the private hospital. He had only been three weeks on the field.

The Union Bank has commenced building brick premises in Bayley-street.

Menzies has been declared a municipality.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLDFIELDS.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

KALGOORLIE, Wednesday.

The Great Boulder crushing for the fortnight of 110 tons of stone yielded 1100oz. of gold. Of this the mine battery returned 706oz. from 86 tons of stone, and the Leviathan battery 394oz. from 122 tons of stone. The Leviathan battery shut down for several days during the fortnight. Splendid stone was met with in sinking the winze from the 70ft. level in Hannan's Reward North. The South mine shows rich nuggetty gold. The leader is at present 18in. wide. The shaft at the Dunlop and Sheet Anchor mine is down 150ft., and is making about 30 gallons of water daily.

*LAW NOTICES.*

SUPREME COURT.—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27.

In Chambers.—At 10 a.m.: Hayle v. Hayle, Henry co-respondent, to enter suggestion; same v. same, co-respondent, for execution on memorial; Stewart and another v. Lee, Reilly claimant, Sheriff's interpleader; Beveridge v. Prentice, Prentice claimant, Sheriff's interpleader.

Master's Office.—Before the Deputy Registrar.—11 a.m.: Minister for Public Works and claim of Stutchbury, to tax costs. 2 p.m.: Butler v. Citizens' Life Assurance, to tax costs.

Prothonotary's Office.—Before the Prothonotary: Ward v. M'Ghee, 10; Macnamara v. Daly, 11; Prangley v. Evans, 11.30.

DISTRICT COURT.—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27.
(Before his Honor Judge Murray.)

Jury Causes.—Harley v. Wearne and others, Roberts v. Bridges.

The Court will open at 10 a.m.

*TO-DAY.*

United Friendly Societies of New South Wales Demonstration and Art Union, Agricultural Society's Grounds, Moore Park.
Middle Harbour: Sydney City Mission Picnic to Pearl Bay.
Bondi Aquarium: Entertainment.
Zoological Gardens, Moore Park.
Correy's Gardens, Cabarita: Dancing.
Harbour Excursion to Clontarf.
Australian Jockey Club Summer Meeting: First Race at half-past 12 o'clock.
Popular Excursions to Hawkesbury River and Port Hacking, from Wharf, foot of Market-street, 10 a.m.
Coogee Palace Aquarium: The Bavarian Band and Variety Entertainment.
Sir Joseph Banks, Botany: Dancing in the Pavilion.
Royal Standard Theatre: Little Lord Fauntleroy.
Tivoli Theatre: Minstrel and Speciality Company.
Organ Recital, Town Hall.
Theatre Royal: "Pat."
Her Majesty's Theatre: "Robinson Crusoe," at 2 p.m. and 7.45 p.m.
Centenary Hall: Trebelli Concert.
Lyceum Theatre: Inauguration of Comedy Season: "The Amazons."
Sydney Music Hall: Pantomime de Variety.
Criterion Theatre: Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Company.
Temperance Hall, Pitt-street: Gibbons's Minstrel Company.
Pony Races, Lillie Bridge.

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# GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

## PREPARATIONS IN VENEZUELA.

## STATEMENT BY MR. JOHN REDMOND.

## "IRELAND SOLID WITH AMERICA."

## VIEWS OF PRESIDENT CLEVELAND.

## HE DEPLORES THE TALK OF WAR.

## PROPOSED TARIFF INCREASES.

[BY CABLE.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Dec. 24.

Mr. John Redmond, member for Waterford in the House of Commons, has forwarded a cable to the *New York World* stating that in the event of war occurring between Great Britain and the United States the Irish will be solid with America.

It is reported that President Cleveland has stated that he deplores the talk as to the probability of war between Great Britain and the United States.

He considers it to be desirable that the commission to be appointed by the United States Government to ascertain the true boundary of Venezuela should make a thorough and an impartial inquiry.

It is probable that Chief Justice Fuller will be appointed president of the commission.

The Tammany Ring is unanimous in support of President Cleveland's action in regard to Great Britain and Venezuela.

In Venezuela the feeling against England continues to run very high.

Anti-English meetings are being held at Caracas, the capital, and the enrolment of all the able-bodied males of the country is proceeding, with the view of providing, as far as possible, for an efficient army to oppose the British, should hostilities be entered upon.

Dec. 25.

It is reported that, with the view of increasing the revenue by 50,000,000dol., the Committee of Ways and Means of the United States House of Representatives proposes to introduce a bill imposing, until August, 1898, a duty equivalent to 60 per cent. of the M'Kinley rates on wool and woollens, a 25 per cent. increase on cereals, breadstuffs, dairy produce, and live stock, and a 15 per cent. increase on the other schedules.

It is also reported to be the intention of the committee to introduce another bill to provide for an unlimited issue of 3 per cent. coin bonds to be devoted to redeeming the currency.

The *New York World* states that President Cleveland planned his message to Congress on the Venezuelan question six months ago, thus rendering it more monstrous and making it really a crime.

A leading English author has appealed to the American people in the name of the common ties of blood and literature in favour of peace.

# VICTORIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

## CHRISTMAS DAY OBSERVANCE.

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.

The Christmas festival was celebrated to-day with the usual religious services. Many of the churches were tastefully decorated. Special attention was paid to the musical portion of the services and the congregations generally were large. In the evening the Philharmonic Society gave a creditable performance of the "Messiah" before a large audience in the Town Hall. At the Princess Theatre a sacred musical festival was held. The programme included a number of tableaux of Bible stories. A sacred musical festival was also held in the Exhibition Building, and proved very successful. The weather throughout the day was agreeable.

## *ARRIVAL OF THE R.M.S. AUSTRALIA AT ALBANY.*

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALBANY, Wednesday.

The R.M.S. Australia, Commander Reeves, arrived from Colombo at 6 this morning. The saloon passengers are:—

For ADELAIDE: Mr. Waterhouse.

For MELBOURNE: Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Hyland, Mr. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. M'Kinnon and party, Mr. Whitty, Mr. Parks, Mr. Smith, Mr. Terry, Mr. Wait, Mr. Deegan, Mr. and Mrs. Champion, Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Bull, Mrs. Charsley, Miss S. Abbott, Miss Wilson, Miss Terry, Misses Charsley (3), Miss Baron, Miss Korff.

For SYDNEY: Mr. Lowe, Mr. Farrer, Mr. and Mrs. Massie and family, Mr. Danger, Mr. Pietzker, Mr. and Mrs. Finlay, Mr. and Mrs. Casey, Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Turner, Mr. Ullathorne, Mr. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Owen, Mr. Notley, Mr. Narcom, Mr. Price, Messrs. Williams (2), Mr. Pridmore, Mr. Siddons, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Prescott, Mr. and Mrs. Cabena, Mr. Brown, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Marks, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Lowe, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Gunn, Mrs. Halkett, Mrs. James, Mrs. Daniel, Mrs. Onslow, Mrs. Baker, Miss Dibbs, Misses M'Keller (2), Misses Roycraft (2), Miss Gunn, Miss Oliver, Miss Prescott, Miss Maitland, Miss Pillans, Miss Onslow, Mrs. Baker, Captain and Mrs. Onslow.

For NEW ZEALAND: Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Godsall and family, Mr. Day, Mr. Ogle, Mr. Stenson, Mr. Marks, Mr. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Kiddle, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Gray, Miss Campbell, Miss Johnstone, Miss Carleton, Miss Higginson.

For HOBART: Messrs. Clemons (2), Mr. Thomas.

The vessel also carries 69 passengers for all ports in other classes.

The R.M.S. Australia sailed for Adelaide at noon.

## *THE WRECK OF THE DURISDEER.*

### SALVAGE OPERATIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEWCASTLE, Wednesday.

Salvage operations in connection with the wreck of the Durisdeer are still being carried on under the supervision of Captain Webster, for the benefit of all concerned. Captain Webster has been successful, with the co-operation of the men from Mr. James Russell, in rescuing the greater part of the sails. All the decks have been nearly carried away, and nearly all the ballast, consisting of 600 tons, has been washed out of her by the big seas. The vessel is now lying on her beam ends, but her hull is still intact. The water police, under Senior-sergeant Dick and Senior-constable G. Harrison, are very vigilant watching the operations. There was a large crowd on the Stockton beach to-day.

ROUND HARBOURS, UP MOUNTAINS! Everywhere you find Dona Marina Mexican Cigars.—[ADVT.]

# SPECIAL CABLES.

FROM THE *HERALD'S* LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

## THE SITUATION IN TURKEY.

### FIGHTING AT ZEITOUN.

### HEAVY LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

Incessant fighting has taken place at Zeitoun, in the province of Aleppo, Turkey, where 12,000 Armenians were recently reported to have attacked the citadel and massacred the garrison, consisting of 500 Turkish soldiers.

On hearing of the massacre the Sultan became greatly enraged, and ordered Mustapha Pasha, the Governor of the province, to raze the city and destroy the Armenians.

Heavy losses have been sustained by both sides.

Dec. 25.

The Powers have proposed that the Consuls at Aleppo shall mediate between the Porte and the rebels at Zeitoun.

## EXPLOSION ON A WARSHIP.

### NINE MEN INJURED.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

An explosion has occurred in the coal bunkers of H.M.S. Repulse, lying at Chatham.

Nine men were injured.

The Repulse is a first-class battle-ship, 14 guns, twin screw, armoured, nearly three times the size of the Orlando. She was commissioned last year for the Channel Squadron to replace the Rodney with officers turned over from that ship. The "Navy List" gives the following particulars of the vessel:—She is in command of Captain Burges Watson; Hon. W. G. Stopford, navigating lieutenant; Lieutenants R. N. Ommaney (formerly in the Orlando), C. G. Treherne, E. C. Carr, Percy St. John, F. C. Montresor, J. P. Irven, C. G. Pratey, and S. G. D. Andrews, R.N.R. The vessel was built in 1892 at Pembroke, and has four 67-ton guns, 10 6in. and 28 six-pounders, besides smaller weapons. Her speed is the same as that of the Orlando.

## GALES ON THE IRISH COAST.

### A DISASTROUS WRECK.

### TWENTY-ONE LIVES LOST.

### CAPSIZE OF A LIFEBOAT.

### FIFTEEN PERSONS DROWNED.

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Very heavy gales have occurred on the coast of Ireland.

The schooner Moresby, belonging to the port of Liverpool, was wrecked near Dungarvan, a market and seaport town 29 miles south-west of Waterford.

Twenty-one of those on board perished.

Among them was Mr. David Mickie, whose parents are said to resid in Melbourne.

Another wreck occurred near Kingstown, on the coast of Ireland.

The lifeboat crew went to endeavour to rescue the hapless men on the wreck, but the sea was so rough and the storm so furious that the boat could not live.

Before the crew had reached the wreck the lifeboat capsized, and 15 of the men were drowned.

## OBITUARY.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

The death is announced of Sir E. J. Harland, Bart., Conservative M.P. for North Belfast. He received his baronetcy in 1885, he being Mayor of Belfast during the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Ireland in that year.

## N.Z. LOAN AND MERCANTILE AGENCY CO.

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Messrs. Turquand and Young have written a further letter to the *Times* in regard to the dispute between Mr. Young, late auditor of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, and the directors of the company.

They explain that Mr. Young informed Mr. Martin, the chairman of directors, on he 15th November, of the amount of the deficit, but the board of directors had not inserted it in the report.

In commenting upon the matter the *Times* states that the trouble has arisen in consequence of no one person or body teing responsible for the entire scheme of reconstruction.

## AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

The shipment of poultry brought from Australia by the steamer Gulf of Siam has arrived in excellent condition.

The Victorian turkeys realised from 9d to 10d per lb.

The rabbits are very firm and are selling at 11d.

Dec. 25.

The shipment of butter and eggs brought by the R.M.S. Cuzco from Australia has arrived in good condition.

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

## CHRISTMAS DAY OBSERVANCE.

ADELAIDE, Wednesday.

With fairly fine weather Christmas Day passed pleasantly, having almost the appearance of Sunday. In many of the churches the services were well attended, and the Town Hall was crowded in the forenoon for worship. In the evening a Continental season was opened at the Jubilee Exhibition Grounds, when the "Messiah" was produced before an immense audience.

A boy named Charles Dudley, aged 13, was drowned at Glenelg to-day through the capsizing of a canoe.

In July, 1890, Rodney Claud Spencer was found guilty of killing a native in the Northern Territory, and was sentenced to death; but as the jury strongly recommended him to mercy, his sentence was commuted to one of imprisonment for life. Since that time efforts have been made to secure the prisoner's release. Early this month a letter and petition came from the Northern Territory urging that Spencer should be set free, and declaring that he acted only in self-defence. The Premier has replied, saying that the evidence abundantly proved that Spencer was properly convicted of the most cruel murder of a helpless native, and that therefore the Executive declined to intefere with the sentence.

FRANZ JOSEF PILSEN BEER, light and sparkling, is the drink for the climate.—[ADVT.]

# COUNTRY NEWS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

## FATAL ACCIDENT IN A MINE.

NEWCASTLE, Wednesday.

The coroner, Mr. Martin, J.P., held an inquest yesterday at Charlestown on the body of Thomas Pascoe, who died on Monday from the effects of injuries received by a fall of stone in the South Waratah Colliery on Wednesday last. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

## DEATH OF THE REV. J. A. BOWRING.

LITHGOW, Wednesday.

The Rev. J. A. Bowring, Wesleyan minister, died last night after a brief illness of inflammation of the lungs. The deceased gentleman had only been here eight months, having previously been in charge of the Tongan mission. General regret is felt at his sudden decease.

## LAND SELECTION.

NARRABRI, Wednesday.

A good deal of dissatisfaction exists among persons in search of land at the delay in throwing open sufficient areas for the demand of intending settlers. The two settlement leases to be opened on 2nd January next, it is expected, will attract a large number of applicants. The generally-expressed wish is for conditional purchase, and many of those who apply for settlement leases do so in the hope that at some future time an amending land bill will be passed, enabling these leases to be converted into conditional purchases. A great amount of interest is manifested in the coming land board cases of bona fides from Mercadool. In addition to Sydney visitors, a large number of country visitors are expected to be present, not in any way connected with the case, but merely from the standpoint of listeners.

NARRABRI, Wednesday.

Since the recent rains the country around looks magnificent, and travellers from the back country speak in most favourable terms of the general appearance of both the country and stock.

A very large number of persons have left the district on a visit to the metropolis within the past few days, the trains being crowded. As a consequence the town will be somewhat dull during Christmas.

Messrs. Barry and Stafford, storekeepers, together with Mrs. Everingham, of the Club House Hotel, have arranged to light their respective establishments with the electric light early in the coming year. The plant is already in course of erection. The Municipal Council of Narrabri is also negotiating for public lighting by electricity, but so far nothing definite has been done.

The land board will sit on the 2nd proximo to deal with the recent Nowley Settlement lease ballots, and to inquire into the bona fides of the successful applicants. Mr. Hunt's appeal case against the disallowance of his conditional purchase application, on the ground of his being the holder of a full area, is set down for hearing at Darlinghurst on the 4th February next. Great interest is displayed in the result, letters having been received from various parts of the colony asking the particulars.

An influential and largely signed requisition is being forwarded to the Minister for Justice asking for further consideration of the case of Thomas M'Mullen, who was recently sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment for embezzlement from the Post-office.

The vicar, the Rev. T. E. Fox, has been very unwell for some days, and his medical adviser has ordered him to seek a change of air and to have complete rest for a few days.

PENRITH, Wednesday.

News is just to hand of the sudden death by drowning of the eldest son of Alderman Vine, of this town.

## ACCIDENT TO THE WESTERN MAIL.

### TRAFFIC RESTORED.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

SPRINGWOOD, Wednesday.

There was great excitement here last night in consequence of the down mail train, which left Sydney at 8 p.m., becoming derailed about 400 yards east of this station. The train consisted of a powerful P engine, No. 503, and six cars, all well filled with passengers, and it arrived at the signal about 9.30 p.m., having made excellent running. It slowed towards the station to exchange the staffs, and on arrival at the points of the siding the engine left the rails. An examination showed that all the wheels of the engine and tender were off, also those of the first carriage, and the front wheels of the next car; and the whole train had run some 40 yards after leaving the metals, bending the rails of the loop. Beyond this there did not appear to be any injury to persons or rolling stock. The night officer, Mr. V. Jones, was in charge of the station, but the noise quickly brought Mr. Melville, the stationmaster, to the spot, and he telephoned to Mr. Henson, superintendent at Penrith, at once. In the meantime the second down mail train arrived, and this was also delayed at about a quarter-mile east of the station. All the luggage and the mails from both trains were got out on to the platform. The passengers alighted on the ballast and walked to the station. Amongst the passengers was a number of ladies, but there was no alarm shown. On receipt of the news of the accident Mr. Henson wired to Mount Victoria to send two relief trains to Springwood; and he also ordered the immediate despatch of the Penrith break-down train and about 40 men, proceeding with the train himself. This arrived at Springwood about 11.45 p.m., and all hands were soon at work with the powerful hydraulic jack and other appliances to replace the derailed vehicles. The whole of the traffic was temporarily blocked, but after a while the engine was shifted over a little, which enabled some of the traffic to be conducted through the loopline. All the local fettlers were called out, and, with the fitters from Penrith, the hard work of clearing the line was proceeded with under the direction of Inspector Roberts. The lifting operations in connection with the derailed engine, &c., were conducted under the superintendence of the locomotive inspector, Mr. Colley, and Inspector Boyd's valuable experience was the means of getting the traffic partially restored. The engine was placed on the metals at 10.30 a.m. to-day, and the carriages had previously been pulled into position without much trouble by the aid of a locomotive. The relief trains arrived from the west by 2 a.m., and the passengers, after their four hours' detention, embarked in these with their luggage and the mails, and proceeded to their respective destinations, the ladies having received the kind attention of Mrs. Melville, the stationmaster's wife, who supplied them with some refreshments. A number of trains were delayed through the accident, but the line was cleared sufficiently to allow of the usual traffic by 6 o'clock this morning, and by noon all the men engaged were able to leave for their respective homes, after a hard night's work. An inquiry is pending as to the reason of the derailment.

PENRITH, Wednesday.

The accident happened to the Western mail train last night happened a short distance from the eastern end of the platform. The engine appears to have left the road there and travelled some 30 yards before being brought to a standstill. The engine had almost gone clear of the road, the near wheel having almost mounted the off rail. The tender and one carriage were right off and the front bogie of the second. There is no accounting for the accident, although several previous accidents during the last 20 years have taken place here. The night-officer, Mr. V. A. Jones, avers the points were properly locked and secure, and the stationmaster, Mr. Melville, who arrived on the scene within five minutes of the accident, confirms this statement. From the points there is a loopline into the siding, and the whole of the derailed train, except the engine, blocked the road. Arrangements were made for the relief trains to work between Katoomba and Springwood, and Springwood and Glenbrook, and the work of getting the passengers and luggage transhipped was carried out in first-class style. Both Inspectors Henson and Colley worked with a will, as did the chief traffic manager. There was a good deal to do, but it was done well. Very little damage was done to the rolling stock or permanent way, and the line was opened for traffic between 5 and 6 a.m. The traffic last night was enormous, but beyond losing some small items and a little grumbling in consequence all the passengers were in good humour.

# HOME TOPICS AND EVENTS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Nov. 15.

Lord Mayor's Day has been chiefly remarkable this year for the extraordinary interest taken in the Prime Minister's speech at the banquet. Never since the times of Lord Beaconsfield's Premiership has any public pronouncement outside Parliament on foreign questions been awaited with such intense anxiety. There was something like a panic on the Stock Exchange at the end of last week, the effects of which are even now manifest both at home and on the Continental bourses, and the most extravagant rumours were current as to the gravity of the disclosures which Lord Salisbury had to make. This was even the case at the very dinner table, and while the guests were disposing of the luxurious cheer provided by the Lord Mayor they were scanning the faces of the Prime Minister and some of his colleagues who were present in the attempt to obtain beforehand an idea as to the nature of what was coming. As a matter of fact Lord Salisbury appeared to be much at his ease, and to enjoy his dinner as much as any of the other guests, and the speech which he had to make proved to be quite unsensational. I suppose it is the reaction from the preceding tension which is now leading both the English and the Continental press to treat the speech as if it were entirely of a reassuring character. It is certainly nothing of the sort. Lord Salisbury's manner when he was on his feet was earnest and even solemn, and it was easy to see that he was picking his words with the utmost care and deliberation—like a man who wished to say enough, but was terribly afraid of going too far.

The speech was so far of a satisfactory character that it gets rid of any serious doubt that for the present at all events the Powers are acting in harmony with regard to the Armenian question. Among other canards which were flying about before Lord Salisbury spoke was one to the effect that Russia and France had jointly thrown over the English initiative in the matter, and that we were committed to a line of action which they would refuse to support and might even meet with open hostility. Lord Salisbury could not possibly have been more explicit than he was upon this point. He asserted again and again that the concert of the Powers was complete, even, he seemed to think, astonishingly complete in all the circumstances; but beyond this there was not a single reassuring word. Persistent misgovernment, he said plainly, must bring the rulers of any State to their doom. No scheme for the reform of Turkish administration—that is to say, for getting rid of the persistent misgovernment that now exists—could be of the slightest use without the personal co-operation of the Sultan, and that this co-operation would be forthcoming was a point on which he did not seem to entertain the slightest hope. But the most significant passage in his speech was that in which he dwelt on the possible alternative in case the Powers fail to obtain the reforms which they have jointly demanded. He told the Sultan plainly that he could no longer rely on international jealousies to maintain the Turkish power in Europe, and that if the exercise of this power became intolerable some other system could be found which would take the place of the traditional arrangement. What Lord Salisbury is hinting at cannot of course be said with confidence—in fact we have no evidence yet that diplomacy has effected anything more than to bring about a shadowy understanding. But it has been whispered for a long time that there are unlikelier things than the deposition of the present Sultan, the disbanding of a portion of the Turkish army, and the neutralisation of Turkey under an international guarantee, as in the case of Belgium. That means, of course, "bag and baggage" for the governing Turk, as Mr. Gladstone long ago declared would have to be the case.

The Mayoral elections, which take place on the 9th of November, have as a rule very little more than a local interest. This is not the case, however, in the present year. They have been remarkable not merely because, like the outcome of the general election, they indicate the tide of Conservative sentiment which is passing over the country but on account of the part which men of title and great social influence have seen fit to take in them. It is not long ago since municipal ambitions in this country were sneered at as pure Bumbledom and vestrydom. People who were, or affected to be, even on the outskirts of "society" smiled contemptuously at the pretensions of the Town Councillor, and regarded the local Mayor as at the most a person to be patted on the back with condescending patronage. But things have changed wonderfully. I drew attention at the time of the election of the last London County Council to the number of peers and great landowners who had come forward to take part in the contest, and now we have no fewer than eleven members of the House of Lords, including a Cabinet Minister—the Duke of Norfolk, who is the premier Peer of the realm—and an ex-Viceroy of India, and an ex-Viceroy of Canada, and an ex-Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, permitting themselves to be elected as provincial Mayors. To Lord Rosebery belongs the credit undoubtedly of having originated the movement in the direction of elevating the character of our municipal assemblies. But a great deal is due to the spirit of the times and the evident determination of our aristocracy not to be left behind by the current of democratic feeling. It is a little snobbish perhaps to rejoice that Lord Derby should "condescend" to become chief magistrate of a great city like Liverpool; but while public sentiment is what it is there is no good in ignoring the fact that the participation of these local magnates in the business of our local assemblies does tend to elevate them in the general opinion, and to make men of capacity and standing anxious to enter municipal life. On the other hand this run upon the peers speaks rather favourably for the vitality of that long-threatened institution, the House of Lords.

The dispute between Mr. Healy and his colleagues continues to lend a certain amount of piquancy to the discussion of Irish questions, and the Unionist papers are naturally making capital out of it. Up to the present there appears no probability of reconciliation, and Mr. Healy's formal expulsion from the Irish Parliamentary party, which will entail a very serious disruption in its ranks, appears at least probable. He has already been expelled from the Irish National League of Great Britain. There is no milder or gentler mannered man in political life than Mr. Justin M'Carthy, but he appears to be determined to assert his authority as chairman, and to put an end to the existing state of things at any cost. In this I know he is strongly countenanced by the few leading Liberals who have survived disasters of the general election, and are still willing to fight the battle of Home Rule in the House of Commons. One of these men, an ex-Cabinet Minister, whose devotion to the cause of Home Rule has never been questioned, was asked at a dinner table the other day by an Irish lady, what line the Liberal leaders intended to take in the future? "Ma'lame," was the reply, "When your countrymen have done squabbling among themselves, it will be time for us to consider the matter." This certainly expresses the feeling of the great bulk of English Liberals at the present time. So long as the Irish leaders persist in cutting each other's throats their English sympathisers feel that they are impotent, and can only stand aside and look on helplessly. At the very beginning of next session the Home Rule question will be raised by an amendment to the address, and the very first measure which the Government will have to introduce is a great Irish Land Bill. If, in face of these facts, the Irish Party gathers in the House of Commons only to resume its present quarrels, the result will be that English Liberals will stand aside in disgust, and the cause of Ireland will suffer greatly. Mr. M'Carthy and his colleagues evidently realise this, and they are determined to bring things to an issue in some way before Parliament meets.

I have this week seen for the first time a petroleum bicycle on the streets of London. It was threading its way amid the traffic in a crowded suburb, carrying a large red lamp, but making no noise, and leaving no pungent odour behind it as some of the horseless carriages do. As far as I could judge in the circumstances, it is a very much more elegant machine than the petroleum bicycle which was shown at the Crystal Palace last year, and the rider had evidently complete and easy control over its movements. I have since been watching the police reports with interest, to see whether he has been brought within the reach of the arm of the law, for there is no question as to the illegality of driving an engine of this kind on the public roads without somebody in front of it to wave a red flag and give the public warning. The law as it stands was chiefly framed, of course, with an eye to the traction engine, but it is so worded as to apply to all vehicles driven by mechanical power. One or two convictions under the statute, however, would soon show the absurdity of its general application, and hasten that modification of the law which the late Government contemplated when they were in office. However, the rider of this particular bicycle seems to have escaped the notice of the keen-eyed London police. It is just possible that he was making his trial trip after dark with the idea, which proved to be justified, that in the crowded traffic the peculiar construction of his "machine" would remain unobserved, or possibly be deliberately overlooked by the busy constables, who have quite enough to do with their every-day work without undertaking a stern chase after a petroleum cycle.

# BOXING DAY AMUSEMENTS.

A pretty complete list of sports and amusements has been arranged for to-day. The chief of these will, should the weather be auspicious, probably prove to be the balloon ascent and parachute descent, which Professor J. W. Price is to make at Clifton Gardens (formerly Chowder.) The other engagements consist of—The Australian Jockey Club's meeting at Randwick; the Friendly Societies' sports gathering at the Agricultural Society's Grounds: Sydney Juniors v. North Coast District cricket match at the Sydney Cricket Ground; the Hibernian A. C. B. Society's picnic at Athol Gardens; and the City Mission picnic at Pearl Bay. A picnic will be held at Fern Bay, and there will also be a gathering of pleasure-seekers at Correy's Gardens, Cabarita. A variety entertainment is to be given at the Coogee Palace Aquarium. In connection with the Bondi Aquarium an attractive entertainment is announced, and it is also notified that Professor Leo, the ropewalker, will, with his little sister, perform a series of clever feats. It has also been arranged that Sir Joseph Banks pavilions and gardens at Botany shall be open to visitors. Rodd Island will also be open to picnic parties. Large steamers belonging to the Newcastle and Hunter River S.S. Company will make ocean excursions to Careel Bay, Newport, and Port Hacking; there will also be excursions to Manly, Watson's Bay, Clontarf, and Middle Harbour. A matinée performance of "Robinson Crusoe" will be given at Her Majesty's; and a matinée performance of the musical comedy, "Pat, or the Bells of Rathbeal," at the Theatre Royal. The Cyclorama of Jerusalem will also be on view.

This evening an organ recital will be given at the Town Hall. The programme will embrace Mr. Wiegand's popular Idylle No. 1, of which "The Storm" is one of the prominent descriptive features.

To-night all the theatres and music halls will be open.

### THE RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

The railway arrangements for to-day afford an extensive choice of pleasant places at which to spend the holiday. For the Mountains a train at cheap fares will leave Sydney at 8 a.m. A train for the Illawarra line stations will leave at 7.38 a.m., one for the North Coast line at 8.15 a.m. (from Milson's Point at 7.48 a.m.), and one for the Southern tourist districts at 7.55 a.m. Later trains will also run. To meet the expected large traffic to Como and the National Park at the reduced fare of 1s return, additional trains will run. Convenient return trains have been arranged to run to-night, and return trains have also been arranged to reach Sydney to-morrow morning before the commencement of the ordinary office hours.

### LYCEUM THEATRE.

Arthur W. Pinero's farcical romance, "The Amazons," will be revived at the Lyceum Theatre this evening, when Mrs. Brough will make her rentrée, after her absence in Europe, as Noeline Belturbet. The full cast will be as follows:—Galfred, Earl of Tweenwayes, Mr. Ward; Barrington, Viscount Litterly, Mr. Titheradge; Andre, Count de Grival, Mr. Boucicault; Rev. Roger Minchin, Mr. Carey; Orts (a poacher), Mr. Dorrington; Fitton (a gamekeeper), Mr. M'Intyre; Youatt (a servant), Mr. Hards; Marion, Marchioness of Castlejordan, Miss Watt-Tanner; Lady Wilhelmina Belturbet, Miss Hardy; Lady Thomasina Belturbet, Miss Temple; and "Sergeant" Shuter, Mrs. Hill. On Saturday "Niobe" will be revived, quickly followed by "The Magistrate" and "Dandy Dick." This day the plan for all these performances will be removed to the Lyceum Theatre, where it may be seen at the hours notified elsewhere.

### HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

This afternoon there will be a holiday performance of "Robinson Crusoe" at Her Majesty's Theatre, and the new piece will be repeated to-night with all the ballets and spectacular scenes characteristic of these Christmas burlesques on old-time legends. There will be another matiné representation on Saturday.

### THEATRE ROYAL.

Mr. C. B. Westmacott announces a holiday performance of "Pat, or the Bells of Rathbeal," at the Theatre Royal, this afternoon, when the curtain will rise at 2 p.m. "Pat," with its characteristic Irish flavour, bright dances, and new variety songs, will be performed as usual in the evening.

### CRITERION THEATRE.

Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Company will open their season at the Criterion Theatre to-night with a revival of Audran's opera "Olivette," always remembered for "Bob Up Serenely" and other comic numbers which have seized the popular mind. A numerous chorus and an efficient orchestra directed by Mr. H. T. Harrison will be features in the revival, which will be directed by Mr. Tom Pollard. The juvenile cast will include the following:—Captain de Merimac, Master Alf. Stephens; Valentine, Miss Maud Beatty; Duc des Ifs, Master W. Percy; Coquelicot, Master H. Quealy; Marigoi, Master E. Noble; Velantine, Miss Cissy Sandford; and Olivette, Miss Marion Mitchell.

### TIVOLI THEATRE.

An entirely new programme will be presented by the members of Mr. Harry Rickard's Tivoli Company this evening, and in this way the interest taken in the premier variety house during the holidays will be amply sustained.

### SYDNEY MUSIC HALL.

The Sydney Music Hall (Lawler's-buildings) which was closed yesterday for the full rehearsal of the holiday entertainment, will reopen this evening with a special Boxing Night programme. Strong ballets will be amongst the sources of attraction in the new Christmas programme.

### "LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY."

"Little Lord Fauntleroy," a charming comedy which had a long run here on its original production some years ago, will be revived at the Royal Standard Theatre to-night. Little Jessie Clitherow, a child-actress said to possess unusual qualifications for the part, will make her public début on this occasion as the little hero of the story, whilst Mr. W. F. Clitherow will appear as the Earl of Dorincourt, and Mrs. Clitherow as Dearest. To-morrow's entertainment will be devoted to the funds of the Children's Hospital.

### THE CYCLORAMA.

Large numbers visited the Cyclorama yesterday. To-day, again, the management advertise special attractions for the holiday.

# AMUSEMENTS.

### HIGHLAND SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

New Year's Day being pre-eminently the Scottish festival, the Highland Society of New South Wales has, for a long time past, organised a concert for that occasion. Gradually these concerts have increased in musical importance, so that next Wednesday night—as last year—the concert will be given at the Town Hall. His Excellency Viscount Hampden and suite will be present, and, as will be seen in another column, the committee and the hon. secs. (Messrs. J. Soutar and Gordon Marr) have arranged an excellent programme for the occasion. The plan is now open at Paling's.

### TEMPERANCE HALL.

Mr. George Gibbons, late of the Alhambra Music Hall, is providing the public with a very cheap and enjoyable class of amusement at the Temperance Hall. He is having the place fitted with an auditorium, and intends supplying a variety entertainment each evening in the week. Last night there was a very fair attendance, and Mr. Herbert Sherwin (tenor), Little Harry Byseck (wire-walker), and Mr. Wallis Clair (coster impersonator), and Miss Eva Leete (serio-comic vocalist and dancer) all gained the approbation of the audience.

### ST. JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL, BALMAIN.

The annual Christmas concert and dramatic entertainment by the pupils of St. Joseph's High School, West Balmain, took place in the school hall, Weston-street, on Friday evening, in the presence of a large audience. The programme included choruses by the senior and junior class girls, and solos, duets, trios, and character dances, the principal contributors being the Misses Murphy, Ryan, M. Taafe, K. Burns, M. A. Nicholls, Taafe, Drury, M. Condon, L. Scott, Nellie Ralph, Flynn, L. Fitz, W. A. M'Laughlin, A. Hughes, M. Backhouse, M. Cherry, Eva Long, K. O'Connell, and M. Healy. An amusing comedy, in one act, "My Aunt's Heiress," was also given.

## *ST. PAUL'S DAY SCHOOLS, REDFERN.*

The annual examination and distribution of prizes in connection with St. Paul's Day Schools, Redfern, took place last week. The examination of scholars was held early in the week, while the distribution of prizes and an entertainment took place on Friday evening in the presence of a large gathering of parents and friends of the children, including Mr. J. S. M'Gowen, M.L.A. The Rev. F. B. Boyce presided. The children rendered musical selections under the guidance of the head teacher, Miss Kingsbury, who was assisted by Miss Conlin and Miss Beavan. The programme also included the rendering of "The May Festival." A maypole dance was executed by six little boys and an equal number of girls. A floral march won for the pupils much applause, as also did an exhibition of club-swinging exercise by six girls and six boys in sailor suits, to the accompaniment of Miss Gillett. The Rev. F. B. Boyce distributed the prizes, and in doing so spoke at some length upon the merits of the school, its teachers, and the satisfactory results of the examination. He considered that the system of combining the teaching of religious truths with secular instruction gave the best results in the moral and religious training of the children. The school has an average attendance of 130 scholars.

# CHRISTMAS DAY.

Christmas was celebrated yesterday with all the external signs that mark each recurring commemoration. The crowds at the outdoor resorts were, perhaps, less numerous than in previous years, but the disparity was not noticeable, and the half sacred half festive spirit with which the holiday is always regarded was as apparent as ever. Whilst the bells for the morning services were pealing, hundreds of people were making their way towards the wharfs and railway stations, and just as the congregations were assembling, numerous vehicles were taking parties away from town for a day's outing. But though great numbers treated the occasion as a fitting one for relaxation, they took their pleasure with great decorum, and at the most popular places of resor, no feature that could give offence to the most fastidious was to be observed. At many of the principal churches special sermons were preached, and in the evening there were sacred concerts at some of the places of amusement.

### ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL.

St. Andrew's Cathedral had been more elaborately decorated than usual. A profusion of flowers, ferns, and other foliage was available, and these were employed with a considerable amount of skill in the decoration of the altar, the Bishop's throne, the choir stalls, the pulpit, and the lectern. The most conspicuous feature of the whole of the decorations was that presented by the altar, which bore a profusion of choice flowers, prominent amongst which were a number of Christmas lilies. Both the morning and evening services were essentially Christmaslike. At both the Primate presided. In the morning he was assisted by the Rev. R. J. Read and the Rev. P. J. Simpson, the Percentor, and in the evening by the Percentor and the Rev. T. Holme, the latter preaching the sermon. At the morning service the anthem was Sir John Stainer's "Hallowed Day," the tenor solo part being taken effectively by Mr. Percy Bates. The hymns included "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," and "Adeste Fideles;" the "Te Deum," and the "Benedictus" were taken to Woodward in D, and the Kyrie to Stephen. At the evening service the Canticles were sung to Winchester in F, and the anthem was Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." At both services there were large congregations—that in the morning being very numerous. Mr. Younger presided at the organ in the morning, and Miss Wilkinson officiated in the evening.

At the close of the evening service a number of carols were sung. By far the most effective of these was "Child Divine," in which Mr. Percy Bates sustained the solo. Another carol, which was contributed with very fine effect, was "Lo, Within a Manger Lies," in which the solo was taken by Master Fred. Harris, a lad who possesses a voice of remarkable purity of tone, and whose singing was specially marked by clearness of enunciation. The other carols sung were "Ring out, Ring out a Joyful Peal," "Holy Night," "Far Away" (in which light and shade were produced with good effect), "Christ was Born on Christmas Day" (which was altogether a most meritorious performance), "A Wondrous Sight," "'Twas in the Days when Cæsar Ruled," and "Lo, the Darkness Deepens." The Primate's discourse was based on the angels' song.

On the whole, the music at both services was effectively rendered, and showed that considerable care and attention had been taken in its preparation. The singing at the morning service, at which there was a full choir, was especially praiseworthy, the chanting being unusually crisp and bright.

Mr. Holme selected for his discourse a passage from the Psalms, and in connection therewith pointed out that it was the desire of David that God's name should be exalted, and that some visible token of His presence should be enshrined by which the people might openly recognise Him and His worship to a perpetual institution in the land. God never intended that religion should be without its visible surroundings. Towards the close of his sermon Mr. Holme said: We are a sad illustration in this country of the desolation caused by the ark of God being hidden, without any David, who will never rest until it is restored to its rightful place in the hearts and minds and among the institutions of men. It is true we have an abundance of churches and conventicles, but they are all in Kirjath-jearim, or hidden in the woods. We have no public and national way of expressing our faith in God. We can in no way show honour to the Redeemer and King of men as a united people, even in the things of this world, the result being that we are wandering in a forest of difficulties ever multiplying, and cannot find our way out. Nothing prospers, nor is likely to do, not even religion itself, for our dear Church is split up into sections. And unless a narrow shibboleth is pronounced nothing can be done. What is wanted is a national return to God; the placing of the Lord Jesus Christ in the forefront of all progress—political, civil, and religious. Why should the name of God be banished from our schools and His holy law obliterated, the commandments of men being substituted with unblushing effrontery? Why should our University banish from its portals the only true light? Why should Parliament absolutely ignore the Divine presence and the Judges administer the law contrary to the Divine law, thus working confusion and ruin in our midst? Never shall we prosper until, like David, some persons of sufficient influence give themselves no rest until in our national constitution we find out a place for the Lord, an habitation for the almighty God of Jacob. Now we worship Baal, the god of corruption; with Baal we are hastening to destruction. Where are the friends of our Church among her wealthy men? Take this cathedral, to go no further. Where are its endowments so as to ensure all that a cathedral ought to be? When we come to the centre of the life of this vast territory of Australia, the foundation, the premier city, what do we find? An impoverished cathedral, with a crushing debt and an enfeebled service, unable to command either men or means sufficient to adequately show forth God's glory, as it ought to be done, with power and effect, to the country at large.

### ST. JAMES'.

At St. James' Church yesterday Holy Communion was celebrated at 7 o'clock and 8 o'clock in the morning, and also after the 11 o'clock service. Morning prayer was held at a quarter-past 10, and at 11 in the morning there was a choral celebration, the preacher being the Rev. Canon Hey Sharp. The sermon was based on part of the 1st and 14th verses of the first chapter of St. John, "The Word was God," and "the Word was made flesh." Referring to Christmas, with its characteristic motto of peace and goodwill, Canon Sharp asked whence had the glad time gained its gladness? Was it right to accept the opportunity for rejoicing, and yet pass over the great fact to which all the rejoicing was supremely due? Was it right to be so ready for the merry-making and so little ready for the grace and love of God, for which all these things were done? Christians should awake to the reality of the solid rock upon which they stood. The music for the 11 o'clock service was Dyke's setting in F. The Christmas hymns were "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," and "Oh, come all ye faithful." The opening voluntary was the Pastoral Symphony from the "Messiah," and the organist, Mr. H. H. Maclean, played two of his Offertory Sentences, "Let your light so shine" and "To do good and to distribute, forget not." The floral decorations were unusually effective. The pulpit, altar, lectern, and communion table were covered with flowers and greenery, chiefly flannel flowers, white dahlias, and water lilies, while the font was filled with a magnificent bunch of magnolia blossoms, maidenhair fern, and evergreen leaves. Evensong was celebrated at a quarter-past 5 in the evening.

### ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH.

The usual Christmas services were held at St. Philip's Church at 7.30 a.m., 11 a.m., and 7.30 p.m. The early morning service was conducted by the Rev. F. Kellett. Archdeacon Langley preached both morning and evening. There were large congregations at each service, and the church was nicely decorated with pot plants. There was no special musical service, but appropriate hymns were sung.

### CHRIST CHURCH, ST. LAURENCE.

The Christmas decorations in connection with Christ Church were, as on former occasions, elegant and tasteful rather than showy. The altar was almost hidden with white flowers, arranged with such skill that their natural charms were greatly enhanced rather than diminished when they were illumined during service time by the light from the many waxen tapers that rose from amongst them. Similarly the pulpit and lectern were ornamented with flower festoons, but in the case of the latter a dash of colour in the form of a few geraniums of brilliant hue was thrown in with excellent effect. Twined around the gas brackets and standards were trailing streamers of wild flowers, and on the columns nearest the communion rails were beautifully-executed floral crosses, while the window sills were overlaid with cunningly-arranged palm fronds. These decorations were mainly carried out by the members of the Guild of St. Laurence, and reflected great credit upon their taste, for they were artistic in every respect. There were celebrations of Holy Communion yesterday at 7 and 8 a.m., Matins at 10.30 a.m., Choral Eucharist at 11 a.m., and Evensong at 7 p.m. The 11 o'clock celebration opened with a procession. The service was Stainer's particularly beautiful setting in E flat, the Benedictus and Agnus Dei being Dr. Monk's in C. The celebrant was the Rev. Gerard Trower, M.A., the incumbent of the church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. F. J. Albery, M.A., who selected as his text the words of verses 1 and 14, from the 1st chapter of St. John's Gospel, the objective point of his remarks being the inculcation of the lesson of humility set forth in the lowly advent of the Saviour. At evensong the sermon was preached by the Rev. G. Trower, M.A., his text being the words "They shall call His name Emmanuel, which, being interpreted, is God with us," Matthew, 1st chapter, xxiii. verse. Mr. E. P. Truman presided at the organ.

### ST. JOHN'S, DARLINGHURST.

The preparation made for the celebration of the Christmas season at the above church were very complete and effective. As far as decoration of the building was concerned it was evident that a considerable amount of care and labour had been bestowed upon it by the members of the church. All the pillars were neatly embellished with wreaths of ivy encircling them in spiral form, and the lectern, altar, and choir seats were tastefully ornamented. Above the reredos the text, "Unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given," was inscribed in gold upon maroon. The only display of lavishness in the work of decoration was in the mass of flowers which almost hid the font from view; but these were arranged with great care, and presented a very pleasing appearance. Services were held at 8 and 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. The Rev. E. Lampard preached upon the text from St. Luke, ii., 11, "Fear not; behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." A special collection was made for the Sydney and Prince Alfred hospitals and for the hospitals chaplaincy fund. The special Christmas anthem, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem," was sung by a full choir. The Rev. A. W. Pain preached at the evening service, and based his remarks on the text, "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men." He referred to the present strained relations between England and America, and stated that he could not conceive that the dispute was serious enough to result in war; but there was the danger that inflamed passions or an incautious utterance might lead to very serious consequences. The great event of that day was common to both nations, and to all who shared a common belief in the incarnation of Christ. The safeguard against war lay in men being brothers in Him. The day was the commemoration of the incarnation of Christ and was the great security of the brotherhood of man.

### ST. MARK'S, DARLING POINT.

Special services were held in St. Mark's Church yesterday at 10.30, 11.45 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. The church was decorated for the occasion. The text "Arise, shine, for thy light is come," was conspicuously displayed in gold letters at the rear of the chancel-arch, and the altar was laden with flowers and fernery. The super-altar was decorated with Christmas bells, flannel flowers, and lilies, and the main pillars of the building were entwined with holly. A floral cross was suspended over the western door, and the font was covered with a massive collection of flowers and foliage. All the choir seats were laden with wreaths, and above the organ a banner was attached to a cross of marguerites and ferns, and displayed in bold characters the word "Hosannah." The "Te Deum" was sung to Smart's setting, and the Communion was "Tours in F." In the evening a carol service was held, the Rev. A. Gailey, B.A., preaching.

### ST. THOMAS'S, BALMAIN.

Special Christmas services were held yesterday at St. Thomas', Balmain. There was an early celebration of the Holy Communion, and at midday a second celebration, when an exceptionally large congregation assembled. The choir rendered "Te Deum" (Woodward), "Jubilate," and "Gloria" (Bridgewater). The anthem was "Behold I bring you good tidings" (Sir John Goss). A special feature of the occasion was the adornment of the church with scriptural mottoes and other decorations. At the evening service a large congregation assembled, "The Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" were sung to Bunnett's setting, and the morning anthem was repeated. Christmas carols were also sung at this service. The Rev. John Dixon, minister of the church, preached both morning and evening, and Mr. S. Gordon-Lavers, organist, was in charge of the musical portion of the service.

A half-past 9 o'clock on Christmas morning the St. Thomas's choir accompanied the Rev. John Dixon to the hospital at Callan Park, where Divine service of a bright and cheering character was held, and delighted the patients with an excellent rendering of the morning service together with anthems and Christmas carols.

### ST. GEORGE'S, GLENMORE-ROAD, PADDINGTON.

The Rev. H. M. Trickett (incumbent) conducted special services at this church yesterday. Appropriate musical selections were sung. The interior of the church was decorated.

### ST. MATTHIAS', PADDINGTON.

Special services were held at this church yesterday. At the morning service the "Te Deum" and "Jubilate" (Jackson) were sung, and the choir also rendered the anthem, "Behold, I Bring You Good Tidings" (Goss). The offertory was a Christmas carol, "Ring Out Wild Bells" (Arthur Massey). The Rev. J. W. Gillett, B.A. (incumbent) preached at both services. Mr. R. G. Moon was the choirmaster and organist. The church was decorated.

### ALL SAINTS', WOOLLAHRA.

At this church yesterday special services were held. Holy Communion was celebrated at 8 o'clock, and at 11 o'clock there was a second celebration and sermon. At the morning service special music was rendered. The Christmas hymn, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," was sung. The "Te Deum" (Hopkins) and the anthem, Gounod's "Noel." Masters Sydney Rogers (treble) and Percy Jolly (alto) sustained the solo parts. Mr. L. T. Foenander sang the offertory solo. At the evening service the anthem, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem (Winchester), was sung. The Revs. H. Wallace Mort, M.A. (incumbent), and H. C. Viudis preached at the services. Mr. W. W. Biggs was the organist and choirmaster. The church was handsomely decorated with ferns, foliage, and flowers.

### ST. MARY'S, WAVERLEY.

St. Mary's Church was decorated yesterday, when special services were held. Holy Communion was celebrated at 7 and 8 o'clock, and there was a third celebration at the morning service. The choir sang the anthem "O Thou that Bringest Glad Tidings." The processional hymn was "Adeste Fideles," and the voluntary was "Nazareth." The Rev. R. M'Keown (incumbent) occupied the pulpit at all the services. Mr. Harry Nathan was the organist and choirmaster.

### ST. JUDE'S, RANDWICK.

Special services were held at this church yesterday. The interior of the church was tastefully decorated. There were three celebrations of Holy Communion during the day. At the service the "Adeste Fideles" was taken from the Introit. The "Te Deum" and "Jubilate" were sung to Jackson's setting, and the anthem was "Sing unto the Lord" (Vincent Novello). The hymns "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" and "Christians, Awake" were sung. The Rev. William Hough (incumbent) preached. Mr. H. Wareham was the choirmaster, and Miss Guille the organist.

### ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.

Services were held at St. Mary's Cathedral yesterday every half-hour from 5.30 a.m., and large congregations attended at each. At 11 o'clock solemn High Mass was celebrated to an overflowing congregation, and Cardinal Moran presided on the throne, and preached at the morning service. The Cardinal, though making no special reference to the strained relations between England and the United States, incidentally mentioned the matter, and said that the rumours of war had been brought about by vain and designing politicians, and that nations who were supposed to wield the sword in the interests of peace threatened to allow the introduction of a remnant of barbarism in the settlement of a trivial difficulty. He, however, expressed a hope that the peace and goodwill which characterised the present season would ultimately prevail. The Rev. Monsignur Verdon, of St. Patrick's College, Manly, sang the High Mass, and the deacon and subdeacon respectively were the Revs. Father Heydon and Father Phelan. Mr. Delaney presided at the organ, and music was also supplied by a string and reed band. As the procession entered the church the anthem "Ecce Sacerdos" was played, and subsequently Gounod's "St. Cecilia Messe Solennelle" was given. The soloists were Mrs. Tierney and Mr. Clancy. At the offertory "Adeste Fideles" was sung, the soprano solo being rendered by Miss Devitt, Messrs. Hinchey and O'Halloran singing the duet, and Miss Stafford and Messrs. Hinchy and O'Halloran forming the trio. The service concluded with Handel's "Hallelujah." At the evening service, which commenced at 7.30, the Rev. Father Walsh preached, and between the services, which consisted of the Rosary and Benediction, Miss Josephine O'Reilly sang "O, Thou who tellest," from the "Messiah." At Benediction Mr. Clancy sang "O Salutaris" (Giorza).

### ST. PATRICK'S.

At St. Patrick's the Very Rev. Father Aubrey, S.M., was the celebrant of the Mass, with the Rev. Father Ginisty, S.M., as deacon, and the Very Rev. P. Le Rennetel, S.M., as sub-deacon. With Mr. Wiegand at the organ, and Miss King as principal soloist, Cherubini's "Coronation Mass" was sung. At the offertory the "Adeste Fidelis" was sung, and M. E. Napoleon Boffard contributed as a special solo, "Noel," by Adam. In the evening Mr. J. T. Donovan sang Gounod's "Nazareth," and M. Boffard sang an "O Salutaris" in the Gregorian style.

### ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH.

Yesterday Mr. Boyle conducted an extra large choir at St. Benedict's in Mercadante's Italian Mass as far as the "Credo," where this particular mass terminates, finishing up with Haydn's Imperial (No. 3). Herr Alpen officiated at the organ, and the solo parts were taken by Miss Milly Wynn, Mrs. Furlong, Messrs. M'Dougall, Furlong, and Boyle. At the offertory the "Adeste Fideles" was sung. Novello's cantata edition being used with solos, duets, trios, quartets, and grand chorus. Bishop Higgins preached an impressive sermon on the feast of the day.

### ST. FRANCIS'S, HAYMARKET.

The festival of Christmas was celebrated yesterday at St. Francis's Church, Haymarket, at 11 o'clock by Solemn High Mass, the Rev. Father O'Driscoll being celebrant, and the Rev. Fathers Conway and Hyland deacon and subdeacon respectively. The music chosen for the occasion was Haydn's Imperial Mass, with full orchestral accompaniment, under the direction of Mr. S. C. Jeffcott, the soloists being Mesdames Felton, Tubb, Misses F. Murphy, A. Smith, S. Jeffcott, Messrs. T. Ryan, T. Schimmel, G. Butler, and S. Jeffcott. The Benediction followed, previous to which Miss Agnes Smith rendered Millard's "Ave Verum." At the Benediction Mrs. Tubb sang "O Salutaris," arranged from Haydn's "Creation," and Messrs. Ryan and Jeffcott gave Rossini's "Tantum Ergo." Mr. F. Maxted presided at the organ.

### ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH, MARRICKVILLE.

High Mass was celebrated at St. Bridget's Roman Catholic Church, Marrickville, yesterday, in the presence of a full congregation. The interior of the building was beautifully decorated. The celebrant was the Rev. Father Reginald, C.P.; the deacon, Rev. Father Colman, C.P.; sub-deacon, Rev. Father Callistus, C.P.; master of ceremonies, Rev. Father Patrick, C.P. The music, arranged by the conductor (Mr. W. Asprey), was on an elaborate scale. The Mass for the occasion was Weber in G and the offertory "Adeste Fidelis." Before Mass Dr. Maguire sang Gounod's "Nazareth," with full chorus and orchestra. The music ended with the Hallelujah Chorus from the "Messiah." The soloists were Mr. Macnamara, who at the early morning Mass sang "Noel" (Gounod), Mrs. Fawn, Miss Cauley, Mr. Percy M'Cauley, and Mr. Miller. Mr. F. Croft presided at the organ, and the orchestra was under the leadership of Mr. Miller. The Rev. Father Patrick, C.P., preached the sermon.

### SACRED HEART CHURCH, DARLINGHURST.

A special service was held at the above church at 11 a.m. yesterday. High mass was celebrated and an augmented choir rendered Haydn's Third Mass and Gounod's "Messe Solennelle;" Miss Pettifer presided at the organ, and the soloists were Miss Chapman, Mrs. Madden, and Messrs. A. Rourke and W. Mears. During the offertory the "Adeste Fideles" was sung, and Messrs. Rourke and O'Sullivan rendered the "Beata Nobis Gaudia."

### ST. JAMES' CHURCH, FOREST LODGE.

The usual morning services were held at St. James' Church, Forest Lodge, yesterday, and at 11 o'clock there there was a "Missa Cantata," the celebrant being Rev. Father Hogan. The music chosen was Haydn's No. 3 (Imperial) Mass. There was a full choir. The principal soloists were—Mrs. F. J. Riley, Mrs. J. D. Wood, Miss Quilty, Miss Costello, Messrs. Bernasconi, Maher, Eisenstaedter, C. Fitzpatrick, Donohoe, and Gormley. In addition to the organ (presided at by Miss Eisenstaedter) there was an orchestra of stringed instruments, with Mr. Drager as leader, the whole being under the conductorship of Mr. Thomas M. O'Neill.

### ST. FRANCIS' (R.C.) CHURCH, PADDINGTON.

There was a crowded congregation at St. Francis' (R.C.) Church, Paddington, when the Rev. Father Lawler celebrated Mass. The "Missa Cantata" was sung, the Mass chosen being Farmer's, which was given with full orchestral accompaniment. The soloists were—Miss Llewllyn (soprano), Mr. Riley (tenor), and Messrs. Humphries and E. J. Hogan (bass). Miss Mylott sang Mascheroni's "Ave Maria," and Miss Llewllyn the "Adeste Fideles." Mr. Stevenson led a string orchestra, and Mr. W. H. Whiddon conducted the choir. The Benediction of the most Holy Sacrament concluded the Mass.

### OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART CHURCH, RANDWICK.

Solemn High Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (R.C.) Church, Randwick, yesterday. The Mass sung was "Van Bree." The celebrant was the Rev. Father Merg, the deacon the Rev. Father Treand, the sub-deacon the Rev. Father Tierney, and the master of ceremonies the Rev. Father Douze. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Treand. The soloists were Mrs. and Misses Finn (sopranos), Mrs. Scott (contralto), and Messrs. Finn (bass and tenor). Mrs. D'Arcy was the organist.

### ST. CHARLES' (R.C.) CHURCH, WAVERLEY.

High Mass was celebrated at this church yesterday, when Haydn's 16th Mass was sung to orchestral accompaniment. The altar and the sanctuary were beautifully decorated by the ladies of the Altar Society. The celebrant of the Mass was the Rev. Father A. S. Mullan, the deacon (the Rev. Father O'Brien), and the sub-deacon (the Rev. P. B. Kennedy). The choir was conducted by Mr. H. Brewer, and included the following principals:—Mesdames Gread and Hunter (sopranos), Miss Cannon (contralto), Mr. H. Brewer (tenor), and Mr. G. Brewer (bass). Miss Maggie Tracey was the organist, and Mr. Henderson led the orchestra.

### ST. JOSEPH'S (R.C.) CHURCH, WOOLLAHRA.

Mass was celebrated at this church yesterday, by the Rev. Father Gaynor. The "Missa Cantata" was sung. The benediction of the most Holy Sacrament followed. The musical portion of the Mass was Mozart's 12th Kyrie and Gloria, and the rest of Weber's Mass in G with the usual Christmas offertory. The soloists included Misses M. Kearney, Newnham, and G. Richinson (sopranos), Mrs. G. Loughnan and Miss A. Murphy (contralto), Messrs. M. and T. Magney (tenors), Messrs. H. A. Magney, G. and A. Loughnan (bass). The musical portion of the Mass was under the direction of Mr. Granville Brown, organist.

### ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, NEWTOWN.

At St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Newtown, Missa Cantata was celebrated by Rev. Father Battle. Dean Slattery preached the sermon, and the music was specially selected. The choir (under the direction of Herr Pechotsch) sang Haydn's "Imperial Mass." The solos were sung by Mrs. Wormald (soprano), Madame Pechotsch (alto), Mr. Gates (tenor), Mr. Angelo (bass). Before the sermon Miss Lannon sang an Ave Maria by Mascheroni, with violin obbligato played by Herr Pechotsch. At the offertory the choir sang "Adeste Fideles;" Madame Pechotsch officiated at the organ. The service was concluded by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, "O Salutaris" being sung by Madame Pechotsch. The choir rendered the "Hallelujah Chorus" (Handel).

### ST. PETER'S, SURRY HILLS.

Christmas Day was observed at this church with due solemnity. Masses were celebrated from 6 o'clock a.m. to 11 a.m. There were large congregations. The altars were beautifully decorated by the ladies of the Altar Society. The Rev. J. Furlong was celebrant at 11 o'clock Mass. The choir sang selections from Gounod, Haydn's "Imperial Mass," and Weber.

### POINT PIPER-ROAD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

A special Christmas service was held at this Church yesterday. The church was nicely decorated. The anthems "Arise, Shine" (Elvey), "There were Shepherds" (Vincent), and Christmas hymns were sung by the choir, under the conductorship of Mr. W. Herbert. Mr. W. J. Stewart was the organist. The Rev. John Fordyce, M.A., who occupied the pulpit, preached to a large congregation.

### BOURKE-STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

In the Bourke-street Congregational Church Christmas was celebrated by the holding of a service at 11 a.m., when special hymns were sung. The Rev. James Hill preached a sermon upon the words from the second chapter of St. Luke, "Glory to God in the highest, peace and goodwill towards men." He said the circumstance, so marvellous in our eyes, that Christianity, with its simple and humble beginnings, should have overthrown the old pagan and Roman world with its growth of customs, laws, and superstitions, was enough to convince every student of history that the new faith held in it elements that formed points of contact and agreement with the spirit and needs of the time in which it appeared. The new faith could not have prospered in the old Roman world, however highly authorised, had it been backed up by mere external authority. The reason of its prosperity was that it imparted nothing entirely alien to human nature and human habits, and nothing which man required to believe simply because it was lofty.

### WOOLLAHRA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Rev. John Walker conducted a special Christmas service at this Church yesterday morning. The choir sang a number of Christmas hymns and the anthem "And the Glory of the Lord" from the "Messiah." Mr. S. J. Massey was the conductor.

### CHRISTMAS MUSICAL FESTIVAL AT BALMAIN.

In the Balmain Presbyterian Church a musical festival by the combined choirs of the Campbell-street Church and St. David's Presbyterian Church, Dobroyd, was held on Monday night in the presence of a large audience. The Rev. Dr. Cosh occupied the chair. The greater portion of the programme was devoted to the sacred cantata, "The Nativity," which was successfully given under the conductorship of Mr. Alexander Bowen. The principal parts were sustained by Miss Cameron, Miss Mackay, Mrs. Maclean, and Miss Beverley, sopranos; Miss Murray and Miss Emily Malloch, contraltos; Mr. George Smith and Mr. Aitken, tenors; Mr. Doregan and Mr. E. J. Bowen, basses. Among the other items on the programme were:—An organ solo by Mr. W. J. Durie; soprano solo by Miss Handyside, "A Child's Letter to Heaven;" tenor solo, "Come unto Me," Mr. Aitken; "The Nightless Land," soprano solo, Mrs. Langley; "The Better Land," Miss Saunders; "O, Thou that Tellest," Miss Gilchrist; "Nazareth," Mr. E. J. Bowen; and an anthem, "Seek ye the Lord," in which the tenor solo was taken by Mr. Aitken. Mr. W. J. Durie supplied the [illegible]

### CENTENARY HALL.

The celebrations of Christmas Day were commenced at the Centenary Hall, York-street, at 7 o'clock yesterday morning by a prayer meeting, which was largely attended. At 9.30 a parade service for men-of-war in port was conducted by the Rev. J. K. Turner. [illegible]

### BOURKE-STREET WESLEYAN CHURCH.

The principal part of the Christmas celebration of the above church was held on Sunday night. [illegible]

of the service a special collection was taken up on behalf of the church fund for the relief of the poor and needy.

SUSSEX-STREET MISSION.

Mr. George Lewis, the pastor of the Mission Church at Sussex-street, with Messrs. Winter, Liddle, and Miss Attenborough, and other workers, prepared a substantial repast for all those men who had not been supplied with a Christmas dinner at any of the other institutions. The men were received in the church at noon, and short addresses of sympathy were delivered by Messrs. George Lewis, S. Brown, J. Liddle, Winter, Smith, and Elliott. At 1 o'clock the men entered the school-hall, where they were regaled with an excellent dinner, consisting of roast beef, pudding, tea without limit, biscuits, and fruit. So pleased and delighted were the guests at what had been done for them that at the conclusion of the dinner, on their own spontaneous action, they rose en masse and proposed votes expressive of their gratitude to Mr. Lewis, Miss Attenborough, and the others engaged in the work. In the evening a Christmas service, at which carols were sung, was held, and was largely attended.

SALVATION ARMY.

The Salvation Army, at the City Temple, Goulburn-street, provided 400 men with a Christmas dinner. There were a few women present, but they were wives of the guests. A large brass band supplied music during the meal. The tickets had been distributed by officers of the army throughout the city and suburbs, after making full inquiries as to the bona-fides of the recipients. The officers did most of the cooking and waiting. Mr. John See gave a large donation of provisions, and Mr. Illingworth, a carcase butcher, provided a great quantity of meat, and Alderman Lucas some sheep. Colonel Estill addressed the gathering, and invited each guest to attend the regular evangelical service in the evening. About 1000 people were present, and a large number repented of their past lives. In addition, material for a Christmas dinner was provided to 100 families at their homes.

PRINCE ALFRED HOSPITAL.

Christmas was kept at the Prince Alfred Hospital as merrily as circumstances would permit, and circumstances were highly favourable. This was due partly to the health-inducing conditions of the hospital and partly to the foresight and generosity of friends who provided many things that were considered necessary to enable the patients to participate in festivities incidental to the season. An abundance of greenery, flowers, and foliage was forwarded to the hospital, and for many hours on Tuesday deft hands were engaged in decorating the various departments of the hospital, including the main entrance hall, the unique chapel which is embraced in the hospital, and the several wards. Every place was made to look cheerful, so that the patients must have felt deeply sensible of the kindness which prompted all they saw about them, and sensible too of the artistic skill which was displayed by those directing the work of decorating. On Tuesday evening a party of carol singers was formed, this embracing the doctors, the matron (Miss M'Gahey), and the nurses and sisters. Mr. Howe, the organist to the hospital chapel, was also included in the party, and as he used an excellent melodeon (the use of which was granted by Messrs. Paling and Co.) the music was altogether highly effective. The visitors on Tuesday evening included Sir Alfred Roberts, who takes a keen interest in all that pertains to the success of the institution. Sir Alfred was again at the hospital yesterday, and expressed his delight at the artistic effect of the decorations, and his approval of the arrangements made for entertaining the patients. In the morning a service was conducted in the chapel by the Rev. Stephen Taylor. For dinner yesterday the fare was on a more generous scale than is usually the case. All the patients whose condition would permit of their taking such substantial food were supplied with roast beef and plum pudding, custard being substituted in some cases and sago pudding in others for the "duff." In some wards such luxuries as poultry and goose were in evidence, the number of patients permitted to take poultry being considerably augmented. In the afternoon the majority of the patients were regaled with sponge cakes, jellies, and other like delicacies. Each of the wards contained the season's greetings. In the composition of several of these much taste was displayed. And this was especially the case in the medical ward, C 2, where Sister Hunter had produced a charming design, the lettering being of ivy leaves, and the background of old gold satin. In the surgical ward, C 1, the salutation, worked in flowers, was "Better luck next year." The decorations in the main entrance hall, which were highly effective, were carried out by Messrs. Ratigan and Howes. In one of the wards a collection of choice pot plants, which had been sent by a former patient, were a conspicuous feature in the ornamentation of the room. A member of the *Herald* staff called at the hospital at 1 o'clock yesterday, at the time at which the patients were taking dinner, and the whole place was conspicuous for its orderliness and cleanliness, the perfect discipline that prevailed, and the cheerfulness existing amongst such of the patients as could be cheerful, having regard to their maladies. The donations for Christmas included a case of toys, sent by Mr. Gotthelf; a package of toys, sent by Miss Abbott; a case of fruit, a pair of fowls, a pair of geese, and a ham, sent by Mrs. M'Mullen, of Theresa Park; a package of children's picture books, sent by Dr. Manning; a package of children's books, sent by Sir Alfred Roberts; a package of toys, sent by Miss H. James; packages of toys and cakes, sent by Miss Meyer, of Potts Point; a Christmas tree, sent by the Misses Newman, of Hunter's Hill; a collection of pot plants, sent by "a grateful patient;" 11 children's jackets, sent by the Girls' High School, Bathurst; one dozen pot plants, sent by Messrs. Searle and Sons; palm leaves (for decorations), sent by the employees at the Eveleigh workshops; evergreens for decorations, sent by Mr. Moore, of the Botanic Gardens; Christmas-bush, sent by Mr. J. Hill, of Vaucluse; three framed engravings, sent by Sir Alfred Roberts; a scrap album, sent by the Ministering Children's League (per Miss Hassall); packages of illustrated papers, sent by Mrs. J. Marks, of Woollahra, and Miss Mitchell, of Ebam; package of notepaper and envelopes, sent by Messrs. Hoffnung and Co.; package of Turkish delight, sent by Mrs. Creagh, of Elizabeth Bay; and two boxes of cigars, sent by Mr. Moore (of Ringarooma). The cigars were distributed to such patients as were permitted to indulge in such a luxury whilst our representative was at the hospital, and he is able to say that if a fine, delicate aroma is any indication of quality, these cigars were a decided luxury. The jellies, sponge cakes, &c., were provided out of funds subscribed by the directors and other friends of the institution.

THE SYDNEY HOSPITAL.

The patients at the Sydney Hospital yesterday spent Christmas Day as cheerfully as was possible under the trying circumstances. The railway employees at the Eveleigh sheds thoughtfully sent a cartload of palms and evergreens to the institution, and the nurses decorated the different wards and made them look quite gay. By the kindness of Mrs. Gifford Moore, of Hunter's Hill, each patient was the recipient of a Christmas card, whilst toys for the children were forwarded by Miss Brodziak and Miss Mears. There are at present 275 adult patients in the hospital and 10 children. A large number of the inmates had been discharged on the previous day, with the view of spending Christmas with their friends. Christmas fare—roast beef and plum pudding—was given to those who were able to indulge in such luxuries. Yesterday, too, was treated as a visiting day, and the patients were allowed to see their friends. The inmates were made as comfortable as possible, and expressed their thanks to Miss Gould, the matron, who was most earnest in her efforts to ensure their happiness.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL.

The sisters of St. Vincent's Hospital caused the institution to be thrown open to the public yesterday, and consequently a large number of persons visited the different wards to offer greetings and gifts to their friends. The building was not specially decorated for the occasion; but some of the patients had availed themselves of the material at their disposal to add a few appropriate ornamentations to their apartments. The sailors' ward was conspicuous in this respect. Streamers of pale-blue and white linen carefully sewn were suspended across the room from the centre-piece, and from corner to corner, while each bed had some embellishment of flowers or paper-work to mark the festival. The hospice connected with the institution, and which is also under the direction of the Mother Rectress, was made as pleasant and cheering in appearance as possible by a careful arrangement of some flowers in the different rooms, and the inscription of a few mottoes and words of welcome in conspicuous places.

SYDNEY HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN.

Christmas Day at the Sydney Hospital for Sick Children, at Glebe Point, must have realised the fairy dreams of the tiny inmates. The different wards were decorated with evergreens, flowers, and plants, and various articles pleasing to the eye. At the head of each room an ample tree, heavily laden with toys and treasures, and bearing striking colours, was placed. Considerable ingenuity and taste were displayed in the whole arrangement, and the visitor found it difficult to conceive that he was not in a children's palace, but in an hospital for the sick. Among the visitors were Messrs. C. Cecil Griffiths, treasurer; Dr. Clubbe, senior medical officer; Dr. Jenkins, medical officer; Dr. Borheman, house surgeon; Dr. Lee, Dr. Sawkins medical superintendent (Prince Alfred Hospital), Dr. Leitchfield, Mr. Hent (hon. secretary), Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Gibling, Misses Carey, and Mrs. Walker. Lady Allen provided the Christmas dinner and many toys, and Miss Edith Walker the decorations and many other things. There were 51 patients in the five general wards and four in the diphtheria ward, and the little fellows were feasted and presented with playthings and toys with a liberal hand. Dr. Clubbe made the presentations. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and at nighttime everyone of them fell into a sound sleep much before the usual time. They were tired and happy. Miss Player (the matron), and the nurses came in for a good deal of praise for the efficient manner in which they carried out all the arrangements.

CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE BENEVOLENT ASYLUM.

Among other charitable institutions in regard to which special efforts were made so that the inmates might thoroughly enjoy Christmas Day was the Benevolent Asylum, where, under the supervision of Mrs. Graham, the matron, a large number of women and children sat down to what was really quite a sumptuous repast, and one well worthy of the season. The fare included roast beef and plum pudding, and there was an ample supply of lemon syrup and other cordials; and, owing to the generosity of Mr. Stedman, confectioner, and an unknown donor, the children were enabled to enjoy a liberal feast of sweets and fruit. Nor was this all, for, owing to the efforts of Miss Cape, Miss North, and a number of friends, quite a stock of toys was sent out to the institution, and were received by the juveniles with the utmost delight. Approximately 126 women and 130 children partook of the Christmas cheer, and the inmates expressed themselves as very grateful that their needs had been so thoughtfully and so liberally administered to. It may be mentioned that Mr. E. Maxted's plan of sending out cards during the year, soliciting aid on behalf of the suffering poor was so successful that, on and prior to Christmas Day, he was in a position to distribute Christmas comforts to the poor outside the Benevolent Asylum, and thus supplemented what would otherwise have been but scant fare for this season of the year. During the day Mr. Carpenter, the vice-president of the institution, visited the asylum with a friend, and was shown over the building.

THE ROYAL NAVAL HOUSE.

The whole fleet in port gave general leave to one watch of men for Christmas, consequently the Royal Naval House was crowded to overflowing, and Mr. and Mrs. Shearston and their assistants had their hands more than full in providing hospitality for their large family, who filled the spacious Naval House on Tuesday night and spent the day there yesterday. Through the kind assistance of friends afloat and ashore—among whom were his Excellency the Admiral and the captains of the fleet—a most bountiful provision was made for the wants of the inner man, about 250 being seated at the tables, in several sittings, and many hearty expressions of gratitude were heard from the men towards their host and hostess and their good friends who helped them.

The decorations about the house and the courtyard were remarkably good, and some pleasing effects were obtained with flags, greenery, mottoes, wreaths, and many-coloured lanterns. A conspicuous feature of the decorations was two fine large ensigns of England and America, united by a wreath of olive branches and draped in an effective manner. The Goodenough Hall, which is the handsome dining-room of the house, was prettily dressed with palms, bright red Christmas bush, Christmas bells, and lanterns; and on the centre table was a very large ornamental Christmas cake, made to the order of Admiral Bridge. Quite a little ceremony attended the cutting of "The Admiral's Cake," and almost every man present partook of it. The cake was made by Mr. John J. Smith, of King-street. Mr. Shearston, who has been in poor health for some days past, and who is now under the doctor's care, was generously helped, and warmly supported by the petty officers and men, and a most enjoyable day was spent. During the evening a capital musical programme, conducted by the men themselves, was gone through.

THE SOUP KITCHEN.

At the City Night Refuge and Soup Kitchen the men began to assemble for their Christmas feast long before noon, and by 1 o'clock some 300 or 400 men were waiting. The spacious dining-hall was gaily decorated with flags, palms, &c., in honour of the festive season. There were five tables the full length of the hall, and it was found necessary to have three relays. No less than 422 men and 12 women were supplied with a substantial Christmas meal, and they one and all showed their gratitude for what had been done for them. The feasting lasted from 1 o'clock until 4.30, and the dinner consisted of roast beef and potatoes, gingerbeer, or gingerale, and fruit. In addition to food, each man received a pipe, a box of matches, and a plug of tobacco. Mr. D. J. Monk, one of the committee of management of the institution, was present, and assisted materially in seeing to the comfort of the unfortunate men. No cards of admission were needed, the doors of the refuge having been opened for whosoever might desire a good meal. A word of praise is due to a number of tradesmen who generously donated goods in kind, notably Messrs. Tooth and Co. for 50 dozen of cordials, the Eagle Tobacco Company for 50lb. of tobacco, Mr. Rutherford for 10lb. of tobacco, and Messrs. Pope, Griffiths, and Dive for fruit.

SYDNEY "Y" BAND OF HOPE.

Among the children whose hearts have been gladdened at this festive season were the children who are members of the Sydney "Y" Band of Hope, which meets in Wentworth-lane (Mission Chapel. A Christmas tree, laden with gifts, had been prepared by the "Y" Union. Articles of clothing, books, toys, bags of sweets, and Christmas cards were given on Christmas eve to the children, who were the delighted recipients. A short programme of music was rendered by members.

SYDNEY NIGHT REFUGE, FRANCIS-STREET.

On Christmas morning a substantial breakfast of beef sandwiches, plain and fruit cake, tea, &c., was given to 90 men at the Sydney Night Refuge, Francis-street. At the conclusion of the repast, one of the recipients expressed, on behalf of the men, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. George Lucas and the trustees of the refuge.

RANDWICK ASYLUM.

In accordance with the arrangements made by the house committee of the above institution, good provision was made for the children and officials to enjoy Christmas Day. The large dining-room of the main building was nicely decorated, and the tables were abundantly supplied with roast beef, plum pudding, fruits, lemon syrup, bon-bons, hidden treasures, and a large assortment of confectionery. The superintendent (Mr. Coulter) stated that in addition to a considerable amount of money which had been received from friends a number of donations in kind had been placed at the disposal of the officials. During the morning the hon. treasurer (Mr. James Stedman) visited the main parts of the building as well as the Catherine Hayes Hospital, at which department the little inmates had their wants attended to in the same manner as at the main building. A large number of persons visited the establishment during the day. The healthiness of the children was very noticeable, and, although nearly 200 were supplied during the day, not one of the inmates was on the sick list. Mr. Coulter (the superintendent), Miss Polack (the matron), and Mrs. F. E. B. Lovel (matron of the Catherine Hayes Hospital) were kept busy during the day; but they succeeded in making the celebration of Christmas an enjoyable one both for visitors and inmates.

ENTERTAINING THE DESTITUTE CHILDREN OF REDFERN.

On Christmas Eve Mrs. Gwynne Hughes, assisted by a number of her lady friends, entertained the children in destitute circumstances resident in Redfern and the surrounding districts. The entertainment took the form of a Christmas Tree, which was held in Chalmer's Church, Castlereagh-street, on Tuesday afternoon. The proceedings opened with devotional exercises, conducted by the Rev. J. Milne, M.A. (pastor of the church), who afterwards delivered a short address, the children listening with wrapt attention. He concluded by asking them to give three cheers for Mrs. Hughes and her lady friends for thinking of them in their hour of need. Mr. Jordan (ex-Mayor of Essendon, Victoria) delivered an amusing and instructive address, which was much enjoyed by the juvenile audience. About 400 children were supplied with toys from the Christmas Tree, and afterwards regaled with gingerbeer, nuts, fruit, cakes, and sweets. Mrs. Hughes was assisted by Miss Kensitt, Mrs. Frederick Chapman, Mrs. and Miss A. Ashdown, Mrs. Donald, Mrs. Odgers, Miss Eva Shea, Miss Wedderburn, and Miss Lumsden.

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR THE NEEDY AT BALMAIN.

In connection with St. Thomas's Ladies' Benevolent Society, Balmain, the annual distribution of Christmas cheer for the needy and distressed families took place on Tuesday. Through the generous help of friends 212 Christmas dinners were supplied from the parsonage, under the superintendence of Mrs. Dixon. In a room set apart there were joints of beef, vegetables, and groceries, and all that was required for Christmas fare, and arranged so as to be easily distributed. Widows received monetary help, and children clothing, and many were the expressions of thankfulness for the forethought on the part of the ladies of the society. The Balmain Ladies' Benevolent Society carried out the customary plan of annually giving extra Christmas orders to those in need of same, a special effort having been made this year to enable the same to be carried out.

INFANTS' HOME, ASHFIELD.

The annual Christmas good cheer took place on Christmas Day at the Infants' Home, Ashfield, and prizes were awarded to all the children.

PHILHARMONIC CONCERT.—"THE MESSIAH."

Fortunately for the cause of music, the difficulties which beset the Philharmonic Society on all sides a short time ago have to some extent been dissipated. This body of earnest workers in the interests of the art has done so much in the past that its services can never be forgotten, and when it was made public that financial troubles had come upon it so heavily of late that there seemed no possibility of the society following out its familiar custom of giving on Christmas night a performance of "The Messiah," the news was heard with a general regret which happily in a good many cases found practically helpful expression. The result was that Handel's most popular oratorio was produced last evening in a manner which was in all respects in keeping with the traditions of our Philharmonic. No doubt the general public were also in sympathy with the society in its hour of trouble; that is the only reason which suggests itself for the fact that in spite of the thunderstorm and generally threatening appearance of the weather last night the Town Hall contained an audience which crowded the lower parts of the auditorium and, overflowing, nearly filled the galleries. The chorus and orchestra were numerically much about the same as on former Christmas nights, but the opinion was pretty generally expressed that in the case of both the one and the other it seemed as if a special effort to arrive at perfection was being made. One thing was certain—viz., that the conductor (Signor Hazon) was less frequently obliged to direct attention to his beat by rapping his baton on the music rest. No doubt the members of both band and chorus are now well accustomed to his *tempi* in this work, but he seemed to have no difficulty to speak of in keeping them together. The basses were occasionally—and especially in their entrance in "For Unto Us"—somewhat rugged and uncertain, but ere long they recovered. This chorus, in the opinion of the audience, seemed to be the feature of the oratorio, for its repetition was most peremptorily insisted upon, and the second time it went much better. We think, however, that the best choral number was "And the Glory of the Lord," which was given in really splendid style. But, taken as a whole, the choral work was eminently satisfactory, and an equal meed of praise is due to the orchestra, in which, as usual, Mr. Rivers Allpress was principal first violin. Their accompaniments were played with delicate grace or thunderous power, as the occasion demanded, and in double forti passages they had great assistance from Mr. Auguste Weigand, who presided at the great organ. The soprano music was sung by Miss Colbourne Baber, who although suffering from a just perceptible hoarseness did justice to it and credit to herself. Her best number was "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," but each of her efforts received most hearty applause, and deserved it. Mrs. F. J. Riley's voice is not entirely suited to the contralto music of this oratorio, being rather too light in quality, yet in the beautiful air, "He Shall Feed His Flock," she sang charmingly. It sometimes happens in this number that the contralto suffers, as the theme is subsequently repeated by the soprano, but it was not so in this case. Mr. H. Weir's opening recit. and air, "Comfort Ye" and "Every Valley," were finely rendered, and later on he gave "Thy Rebuke Hath Broken His Heart" and "Behold and See" with much plaintive tenderness; but his last solo, "He That Dwelleth in Heaven," and the following air were not nearly so pleasing. Mr. F. J. Hallewell, on the other hand, gave indications of huskiness in his first recit. and air, "Thus Saith the Lord" and "But Who May Abide," while in his later numbers, "For Behold Darkness," "The People That Walked in Darkness," and "Why Do the Nations," he sang with a vigour, purity of intonation, and facility of execution in the ornate runs and complex figures which brought him round after round of applause. The work closed with a very fine rendering of the "Hallelujah Chorus."

ORATORIO—"FUTURE LIFE."

Interest in the programme submitted to the audience at Her Majesty's Theatre on Christmas Night centred in the first performance in Australia of a portion of Henri Kowalski's new oratorio, "Future Life." The composer himself explained in these columns the scheme of the work, which he first imparted to Mr. A. Branscomb Wood, who wrote a poetic libretto on the lines indicated, and then to Mr. R. R. Garran, whose version was employed last night. The numbers performed went far to prove that the French composer and pianist has been inspired by his subject in no ordinary degree, so that in "Future Life" he places himself in a new light as the author of an attractive oratorio work, elevated in its tendency, and marked by breadth of treatment and melodic dignity of idea. In saying this, it is not unnaturally assumed that the oratorio as a whole bears intimate relation to the excerpts brought forward last night, and the only pity is that M. Kowalski should not have placed more of the work before the audience. The evening's programme was unusually short, and might have been extended with advantage. A chorus and orchestra of upwards of 100 performers had been formed, with Mr. George Hall as leader and Mrs. Stephenson as harpist, and the composer himself conducted. Probably the most impressive number was the final chorus, "Prayer," in which the male voices rendered unisonally a broad melodious theme, supported by an intricate orchestral accompaniment. With the entry of the female voices a truly majestic ensemble was attained, and the whole was brought to as inspiring a close as any modern oratorio work that could be readily named. The music was, indeed, peculiarly inspiring, and M. Kowalski, who had his vocal forces admirably at command, was compelled by the enthusiasm to consent to a repetition. Miss Hetty Holroyd, a youthful soprano, whose power and sympathetic quality of voice augur for her a bright future, may be congratulated upon the musical insight she displayed in the difficult "Song of a Maiden." This is an area of an elevated character, yet full of melody, and supported by an obbligato for 'cello which, being tenderly rendered by Mr E. Straus, not a little enriched the ensemble. Mr. H. T. Gordon sang with care the recit. and aria allotted to "Death." There was a solemn orchestral introduction and two choruses—an intensely dramatic "Call for Death," and "Youth Rejoicing," a choral number marked by captivating vivacity and fresh melodic charm. The choral rendering was excellent throughout.

In the first part of the concert Mr. Charles Huenerbein conducted the orchestra in the grand fantasia "Across the Pacific" (Kowalski, Op. 52), in which the composer played the solo part for piano. The fantasia is divided into four movements—allegro, andante, scherzo, and finale—somewhat fancifully described as "Leaving America," "Under the Tropics," "In Sight of Australia," and "Landing in Australia." M. Kowalski had too much on his mind to do himself full justice in the solo part, but his sparkling touch assisted in the realisation of the exhilarating quality of the first movement, he played with much sentiment an alluring Andante (with only light orchestral support), in which the influence of Chopin could be traced, and dominated the orchestra brilliantly in the last two movements. Mr. Huenerbein kept the band well up to the mark, and the whole was cordially received. Mr. Edgar Straus played with pure tone and much feeling a Godard "Andante;" Miss Ethel Searle, whose vowel pronunciation of the oft-repeated word "angel" was at fault, sang with care and feeling "Angels Ever Bright and Fair;" Mr. H. T. Gordon contributed Pinsuti's "Heaven and Earth;" and Miss Holroyd rendered effectively the beautiful song, "Twilight of Love" (Kowalski), with violin and 'cello obbligati by Miss Muriel and Miss Bessie Griffiths. The Meistersinger Quartette opened the concert with a refined rendering of Horsley's famous "Come, Gentle Zephyr;" and Messrs. J. Ashcroft Edwards and Nicholas Gehde were amongst the accompanists of the evening.

THE TREBELLI CONCERTS.

Taking it for all in all, the Christmas night concert given by Mlle. Antoinette Trebelli at the Centenary Hall may be fairly considered the most interesting of the series directed by Mr. J. Edward Sykes. The introduction of instrumental trios for violin, piano, and organ gave variety to the programme; there was greater contrast of tone between the violin and piano than between the harp and piano (the previous combination); and, last but not least, Mlle. Trebelli was able to show our audiences that she possessed all the qualities of dignity and breadth essential in oratorio singing. Mlle. Trebelli rendered for the first time "Let the Bright Seraphim" ("Samson"), an air infrequently heard in our concert-rooms until its revival by Mme. de Vere Sapio, with the Philharmonic Society in October, 1894. Mlle. Trebelli sang the splendid aria with exultant power and declamatory effect, moving her audience to great enthusiasm. In London there are two or three players capable of accompanying this song with the slide trumpet, which has a richer tone than the cornet-à-piston—its substitute in this part of the world. Mr. Fowler played the cornet obbligato last night with good effect. As encore Mlle. Trebelli added an Italian air by Giordini, set in the English version to the words "O, Come Hither and Hearken, All that Fear God." The vivacity of the music, which possibly has other associations in the original, is not fatal to the religious sentiment. Mlle. Trebelli sang Giordini's air with great purity of tone, and a certain effect of mild devotional warmth which chastened the sprightly movement of the melody. This tuneful melody, which is charming in its breathless haste, suggested the idea of the anxious desire of the singer to spread abroad quickly the glad news—"and I will tell you what He hath done for my soul." The lively aria formed a most appropriate festival contribution as rendered by Mlle. Trebelli.

The famous soprano was also encored emphatically for her interpretation of the "Ave Maria" founded on Mascagni's "Intermezzo." The accompaniment consisted of violin obbligato by M. Poussard, organ by Mr. J. Edward Sykes, and piano by Signor de Beaupuis. The addition of the piano proved useful in suggesting the harp chords, which, in the orchestral setting, form the prelude to the richer melody of the second part. This air was delivered by the singer in passion-laden tones which exactly expressed the more sensuous character of the music. After some hesitation, Mlle. Trebelli yielded to the prolonged demands for a repetition. The soprano sang for the first time "The Soul's Awakening," a sacred aria composed by Perry Haddock, one of a family of Leeds musicians, of whom Edgar Haddock, a violinist of repute, is the best known. "The Soul's Awakening," to which M. Poussard played the violin obbligato, proved a work of some merit, effectively planned with a good climax, and Mlle. Trebelli's singing ensured an encore. The French soprano sang sweetly, simply, and expressively "Home, Sweet Home." Miss Blanche Thomas, who always sings with earnestness and care, had not quite the breadth and sonorous volume of tone needed for Beethoven's "Creation's Hymn," but in "There is a Green Hill" (Gounod), the pathos which inspired the voice won the singer a well-deserved encore. "The King of Love" (Gounod) was added. Signor de Beaupuis played unusually well, and being encored for the Liszt setting of the "Tannhäuser Overture" added a Chopin "Waltz." Later he was encored for one of the best renderings he has yet given here of Liszt's "Rapsodie No. 2." The Italian pianist, who played with spirit and point, has, in fact, been seldom heard to so much advantage. M. Poussard played in tender muted tones Reber's "Berceuse," and then gained an encore for the dainty vivacity of his own "Intermezzo." The encore was a graceful "Canzonetta" (Poussard), which at once caught the fancy of the audience. The "Marche Religieuse," from "Lohengrin," and Dubois's "Meditation," both for violin, piano, and organ, were contributed by Messrs. Poussard, de Beaupuis, and Sykes, and proved welcome additions to the programme.

On Saturday evening a complimentary concert will be tendered to Mr. J. Edward Sykes at the Centenary Hall by Mlle. Trebelli and Signor de Beaupuis, suitably supported.

THE TIVOLI.

A large audience assembled at this favourite resort last evening, when an excellent programme of sacred and selected songs was presented. Miss Bessie Morgan rendered the pretty ballad "The Gift," in a manner that secured her an encore, and Mr. Sayles sang one of his negro melodies, which, though it was not exactly of a sacred character, was not without its meaning. Little Alma Gray, a precocious child, seemed to please the audience, and Miss Ada Baker rendered "The Holy City" with great expression. Miss Daisy Chard sang a whimsical little number called "Caprice" very gracefully, and Mr. Harry Fitzmaurice's fine bass voice was heard to advantage in "Nazareth." A carefully chosen selection of songs was given by Mr. Wallace King, the Misses D'Elroy and Lynne and Mr. Clarence Lyndon; and Miss Alice Leamar pleased the audience by her efforts. Songs by various members of the company followed, and a very successful programme was brought to a close by Messrs. Tudor and Friedman.

THE STREETS.

Christmas Day never attracts large crowds to the streets, and yesterday was no exception to the rule. In the morning there was some stir and activity, as picknicking parties and excursionists made their way to points of departure; but afterwards the general appearance of the town was very much that of an ordinary Sunday. At 1 o'clock the city proper presented an unusually deserted appearance, and this desertion was to be noticed, more or less, in the suburbs, the explanation being that Sydney was eating its Christmas dinner or waiting in lively anticipation for that solemn function. In the Domain, however, there were many visitors in the afternoon, and, as usual, indefatigable preachers and lecturers addressed the curious. In the evening the violent thunderstorm that broke over the town swept the streets bare once more, and at an early hour the town was quiet.

THE DOMAIN.

Christmas being a holiday of a peaceful and semi-religious character large numbers went down yesterday to the Domain and Botanic Gardens where they lounged about and enjoyed themselves in a quiet way. There was a distinctly Sunday afternoon appearance about the Outer Domain, where the usual crowds and groups and knots of men assembled to hear the Domain orators holding forth on the evils of drink, the wickedness of the Government, the overgrown Civil Service, and other favourite topics. Several religious gatherings also took place.

HARBOUR AND RIVER TRAFFIC.

The traffic on the harbour was very light yesterday—much lighter than on an ordinary week day. During the morning the fleets of the different companies were running with very few passengers; but in the afternoon and evening a fair business was done. Managers of ferry companies do not look forward to Christmas Day as a remunerative one, as the great bulk of the people desire to spend the day in their own homes.

With the exception of a number of private picnicking parties, very few holiday-makers travelled on the Parramatta River yesterday. The many favourite public pleasure resorts on the river were, of course, closed.

The Mermaid carried a fair number of picnickers to Athol Bight, and as the return to town was made in time for tea many took advantage of the opportunity to spend a quiet Christmas afternoon. The traffic to Watson's Bay was little beyond that of an ordinary Sunday.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

BOWRAL, Wednesday.

The Christmas holiday passed off to the satisfaction of everyone. The forenoon was warm, but was tempered by a pleasant breeze. The services in the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church were largely attended, and the day was not taken advantage of for pleasure-seeking to any great extent. In the afternoon a cricket match was played between the local clubs, and at 4 o'clock a thunderstorm came up, but was only slight, and no rain fell to speak of. It cooled the temperature considerably, making it exceedingly pleasant for those taking a rest at home, while not inconveniencing pleasure-seekers who were out. It soon passed over, and to-night the weather is delightful. The town last night was very lively. Many people were abroad, and the main business thoroughfares were thronged. Some of the shops looked very attractive; but one of the most effective displays was at the Town Hall, where the gas manager (Mr. Vickery) and the town clerk (Mr. W. R. Farrow) had utilised the gas to display "Christmas Greetings," expressed in coloured letters which extended the whole width of the building.

PENRITH, Wednesday.

Christmas Eve in town last night was the busiest seen for many years. Trade was particularly good.

*THE GREAT ARMY OF THE TUBERCULOUS.*

SAFETY IN THE OPEN AIR.

The coming on of winter is a matter of no small moment to an immense number of people, who, although suffering in the greatest imaginable variety of ways, are tainted with one common malady, and may be roughly described as tuberculous. Amid some surroundings the human frame is practically impervious to the onslaughts of the microbe of tuberculosis. Among others it is its willing host, ready at all times to receive it, to suffer from it, and to die in consequence of its ravages; and the really important difference between these two conditions hinges upon the presence or the absence of fresh air. It is not difficult, then, to understand the supreme importance to sufferers from tuberculosis of this oncoming of the winter, for to them it too often means the deprivation of this life-giving necessity, the closing of the windows, the rebreathing of the old foul air, and the steady downward progress which all tuberculous patients know by sad experience attends an English winter. Why do such patients go abroad? Not, surely, for pleasure-seeking and enjoyment? In the highest Alps, in the snuggest spots on the Riviera, roughing it in sailing boats to the Antipodes, lounging in the soft breezes of Madeira, seeking warmth and dryness in the uplands of South Africa, or amid the Pyramids and desert lands of Egypt—what is it that all these searchers after health discover? What one thing is it that they find amid these infinitely diverse conditions? It is, indeed, one thing, and that of the simplest, viz., the ability to pass a large portion of their time in the fresh air. Few people have any idea of the enormous number of those who are enrolled in the great army of the tuberculous. They are to be numbered by hundreds of thousands, and to all these it is of the utmost moment that the coming on of the winter should not mean being shut up in the house. It is not given to all of us to go to sunny climes. Unfortunately, to very many no loophole of escape is given from their almost certain fate. Die they must. The microbe they cannot avoid, the tendency they cannot eliminate. But there are many to whom the Fates are not so cruel, to whom, if they will but have the energy to secure it, the great panacea, fresh air, is accessible even in this trying English climate. "In the open air the tuberculous patient may feel safe." This then is the point which one would impress on that vast number of people who, at the present moment, are thinking chiefly how best they can make themselves comfortable for the winter. Their aim should be rather how to arrange their lives so that, through the dark days of the winter, they may best obtain access to the life-giving fresh air. For those in fair bodily condition walking or riding are available; for the wealthy, driving; for the feebler and the weaker sort, sitting out or even lying in the open. It may not always be pleasant, and the snug warmth of the fireside may draw strongly, as we know it does draw to the destruction of many every year; but the fresh air, even though at the cost of infinite rugs and wraps, is better if health is aimed at.—*The Hospital.*

*BULL-FIGHTING IN THE UNITED STATES.*

Bull-fighting is being introduced into the United States. A despatch from Cripple Creek, Colorado, gives an account of a fight organised by a man named Wolfe, in which two bulls were killed. The novelty of the exhibition (says the reporter) and the anticipation of a conflict between the Sheriff of El Paso County and the management of the carnival drew the 5000 people who crowded the vast, roughly constructed amphitheatre, more than the desire to see a bull slaughtered. The reporter adds:—

The sight of an ordinary bull accustomed to quiet scenes being slaughtered and tormented, his sides pierced by the cruel darts and by the goads of the picadores, and the disgusting brutality of the final stabbing and the death-throes of the tortured animal was a spectacle revolting to American ideas of fair play. The Cripple Creek miners want the public to understand that they do not endorse the sport, and had their authorities exercised their powers to stop it no protests from the miners would have been made. There is no doubt about the genuineness of this bull-fighting. La Charita, the woman banderilla; Garcia, Esquival, and the chief Mexican, Cheche, performed their parts with sufficient agility, grace, and fearlessness to satisfy the public of their ability. Hereford bulls were declared "no good" by Cheche. In the deft mortal thrust, Cheche, however, proved not to be expert, for he had to use his long sharp sword several times before the bulls surrendered their life-blood. Between the pauses of these thrusts the sight of the helplessness of the dumb beast made the spectacle disgusting to a majority of the audience.

Excursion trains from Denver and Colorado Springs had to be waited for, and it was late in the day before the picturesque cavalcade dashed into the arena and saluted the spectators. Sheriff Bowers remained in Colorado Springs. Under-Sheriff Brisbane represented him and declared that no cruelty would be tolerated. Manager Wolfe promised this; but when the first bull was admitted to the ring the picadores lost no time in prodding up the animal, while several steel darts were swaying from its sides. The manager and assistants were placed under arrest. A justice was handy and accepted bail. After the first bull was butchered arrests were again made and bond as readily secured.

Adjutant-General Moses advised with Brisbane, and urged him to stop the cruelty. When the toreador bungled at the end of the second killing the Governor's representative left the scene, evidently much disgusted. After his conference with the Governor over the telephone he returned and told Brisbane to go into the arena and arrest each matador every time a dart was thrust into the bull. The presence of a lot of tough men, all armed with revolvers, cowed the deputy, and he contented himself with wordy altercations with the management. The audience was generally quiet, growing excited only when the bull drove the men into boxes and over the barriers, but they watched the officers of the law as much as the bull-killing.

*COOGEE AQUARIUM.*

At the Coogee Palace Aquarium ample provision has been made for visitors to this place of amusement. In addition to dancing, a variety entertainment will be given in the concert-hall.

How to Preserve Fruits Without Cooking with Anti-Fermentine. Ladies inquire of all Storekeepers.—[ADVT.]

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

THE TURF.

The national sport of horseracing will be strongly in evidence during the midsummer holidays. At the headquarters of the turf the A.J.C. Summer Meeting opens to-day, and at a number of centres of population throughout the province reunions of more or less importance will be held. The commencement of the New Year will also be similarly celebrated.

The Christmas Pony Carnival which was opened at Lillie Bridge yesterday will be continued this evening, the sports commencing at 8.15. The remaining two heats of the first and second divisions and the final of the first division will be run through, and good sport may be anticipated.

The Summer Meeting of the Auckland (N.Z.) Racing Club will be held to-day, when the Auckland Cup will be decided, and the candidates include St. Hippo, Impulse, and The Possible, all of whom have raced in Australia. Osculator, who recently returned to his native soil, is engaged in the Great Northern Derby, but the withdrawal of the well-performed Euroclydon discounts the interest in the classic race.

The Canterbury (N.Z.) Jockey Club are about to increase their grand stand accommodation, the cost of the additions being estimated at £3000.

The sums won in stakes alone by the progeny of the Wellington Park (N.Z.) matrons amount to £103,000. The annual sale takes place on the 3rd proximo, when 35 youngsters, sired by Hotchkiss, Castor, Cuirassier, St. Leger, and Brigadier, will be brought under the hammer. Mr. Morrin has, as usual, entrusted the disposal of the fashionably-bred stock to Messrs. Hunter and Nolan, the well-known Auckland auctioneers.

The summer meeting of the Wallsend Jockey Club commences to-day, and promises to be most successful.

The general entry for the New Year's Day meeting of the Murrumbidgee Turf Club closes on Monday next at 8 p.m.

There is a strong probability that the well-performed New Zealand colt Euroclydon and the Duckenfield Park-bred Gipsy Grand, who has also distinguished himself on the New Zealand turf, will pay a visit to Australia in time to take part in the autumn campaign.

The appeal of Mr. Miller against the decision of the Bendigo Jockey Club stewards in disqualifying Briton, and awarding the prize for the Selling Race to Morning Light, was considered by the V.R.C. committee on Monday, and the governing body declined to interfere with the decision of the local authorities.

The V.R.C. committee on Monday gave permission to the disqualified jockey, C. Moore, to "ride work" on the training track; but he will not be allowed to attend race meetings during the term of his disqualification.

The well-known Victorian sportsman, Mr. W. T. Jones, who is now in England, is expected to return to the southern colony in time for the autumn racing campaign.

AUSTRALIAN JOCKEY CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

FIRST DAY.

A leading feature of the Christmastide festivities is the Summer reunion of the premier racing institution, and which opens at Randwick to-day. The recent favourable weather has made a decided change for the better in the aspect of the metropolitan heath, which now presents a bright and pleasant appearance, and the tracks are in splendid condition. The programme is an interesting one, and promises to furnish excellent sport, while the arrangements for the comfort and convenience of a large gathering will be up to the standard. The customary means of transit by rail and road will be available, trams starting for the convincing ground from Bent-street, via Oxford-street, and from Redfern station, via Cleveland-street, at short intervals; while cabs and 'buses will also be at the service of the public. Sport will commence at 12.30 with the Hurdle Race, in which the well-performed Favour has received a steadier in 12st 7lb. With a stone less Cape Pigeon has very fair prospects, and Havana and Llena have also a dangerous appearance; and Laddie, Goldleaf, and Stranger read as being the best off among the light weights. The winner is well concealed, and the places will be apt to go to Havana, Llena, and Cape Pigeon; while a surprise may come from Laddie or Gold Leaf; and a good claim may be sent in by Juvenile. It is a very difficult matter to strike upon a certain starter for the Villiers Stakes, as most of the horses nominated are also engaged in the Carrington Stakes, to be run a week later. Rackarock is well in, and should be able to score a win from Dalmeny, Gaulus, Amiable, and Dodo. If started Jack o' Lantern promises to be particularly hard to beat in the Trial Stakes, and in his absence the places may fall to the share of Woodford, Aurea, and The Meddler. So far the Cranbrook colt, Huret, has shown more brilliancy than anything else engaged in the December Stakes, and he may be escorted home by Le Var, Mosaic, and Reward, for the form shown by Vigilance at Rosehill was not at all encouraging. Keys' selection and The Rejected should divide the honours of the High Weight Handicap; and Jack o' Lantern, Acmena, and Fort will be likely to compose the first flight at the finish of the A.J.C. Handicap. The full programme is appended:—

HURDLE RACE—about 2 miles.

| | st | lb | | st | lb | | st | lb |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Favour | 12 | 7 | Ulric | 9 | 12 | Bernal | 9 | 7 |
| Cape Pigeon | 11 | 7 | Vero | 9 | 11 | Trill | 9 | 3 |
| Havana | 11 | 6 | Division | 9 | 11 | Laddie | 9 | 3 |
| Llena | 11 | 5 | Leslie | 9 | 10 | Goldleaf | 9 | 0 |
| Juvenile | 10 | 10 | Vendome | 9 | 7 | Stranger | 9 | 0 |
| Escort | 10 | 8 | King | 9 | 7 | Oliver | 9 | 0 |
| Martinet | 10 | 4 | Dick | 9 | 7 | | | |

VILLIERS STAKES—6 furlongs.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Couraillie | 9 | 2 | Blue Cap | 7 | 10 | Ordnance | 7 | 0 |
| Little Agnes | 8 | 10 | Coolalta | 7 | 7 | Anambah | 6 | 13 |
| Babel | 8 | 8 | Cartridge | 7 | 7 | San Marco | 6 | 12 |
| Rackarock | 8 | 7 | Dodo | 7 | 5 | Beau Brummel | 6 | 10 |
| Pharamond | 8 | 6 | Algiers | 7 | 5 | | | |
| Buccleugh | 8 | 6 | Collarette | 7 | 4 | Cravat | 6 | 10 |
| Aurea | 8 | 5 | Enid | 7 | 4 | Belmont | 6 | 9 |
| Isaac | 8 | 5 | Amiable | 7 | 3 | Gaulus | 6 | 9 |
| Newcastle | 8 | 3 | Akarini | 7 | 1 | Protos | 6 | 7 |
| Dalmeny | 8 | 0 | Washine | 7 | 1 | Hale-a-wee | 6 | 7 |
| Lieutenant | 8 | 0 | | | | | | |

TRIAL STAKES—1 mile.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inspiration | 8 | 8 | Aurea | 8 | 3 | Charioteer | 7 | 11 |
| Vagabond | 8 | 8 | Te Whiti | 8 | 0 | Patrona | 7 | 9 |
| Jack o' Lantern | 8 | 7 | Woodford | 8 | 0 | Mount Victoria | 7 | 9 |
| Clive | 8 | 7 | Wyalong | 8 | 0 | Pastille | 7 | 9 |
| Rackarock | 8 | 7 | Seneschal | 8 | 0 | Washine | 7 | 9 |
| The Meddler | 8 | 7 | Debonair | 7 | 11 | Ariki | 6 | 2 |
| Rose Noble | 8 | 5 | Bona Fide | 7 | 11 | Roy | 6 | 2 |
| Lieutenant | 8 | 5 | Bogie Man | 7 | 11 | Vigilance | 6 | 2 |

DECEMBER STAKES—5 furlongs.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mosaic | Le Var | Vigilance | Reward |
| Anambah | Huret | Ariki | Pense-à-moi |

HIGHWEIGHT HANDICAP—1 mile (lowest weight, 8st 7lb).

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Attachment | 10 | 12 | The Rejected | 9 | 7 | Quadrant | 8 | 12 |
| Annadour | 10 | 8 | Finis | 9 | 3 | Charioteer | 8 | 12 |
| Thespian | 10 | 3 | Checkmate | 9 | 1 | The Skipper | 8 | 12 |
| Llena | 10 | 3 | Seneschal | 9 | 1 | Fadladeen | 8 | 10 |
| Rose Noble | 9 | 12 | Ebony | 9 | 0 | Cambridge | 8 | 7 |
| Bendigo | 9 | 10 | Musketoon | 9 | 0 | Balance | 8 | 7 |

A.J.C. HANDICAP—1½ mile.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nobleman | 9 | 3 | Aurous | 8 | 3 | The Meddler | 7 | 2 |
| Mahee | 8 | 11 | Acmena | 8 | 2 | Te Whiti | 7 | 1 |
| Lady Trenton | 8 | 11 | Patroness | 8 | 1 | Bewi | 6 | 13 |
| Newman | 8 | 8 | The Sketch | 7 | 13 | Ethelbert | 6 | 11 |
| The Trier | 8 | 8 | Response | 7 | 8 | Cooee | 6 | 11 |
| Little Agnes | 8 | 5 | Erebwon | 7 | 8 | Little Benjamin | 6 | 10 |
| Sundial | 8 | 4 | Ronda | 7 | 7 | | | |
| Couraillie | 8 | 3 | Fort | 7 | 4 | Cradle | 6 | 10 |
| | | | Splenda | 7 | 3 | Scotch Lassie | 6 | 8 |
| Jack o' Lantern | 8 | 3 | Elton | 7 | 3 | Laura | 6 | 8 |

LILLIE BRIDGE PONY CARNIVAL.

There was a large assemblage at Lillie Bridge yesterday afternoon to witness the Christmas Pony Carnival. The afternoon's sport was capably managed and the racing throughout of an interesting character, the finishes on each occasion being very close. The following are the results:—

LILLIE BRIDGE CHRISTMAS PONY HANDICAP of 100 sovs.—First Division.—First heat: J. Gunn's The Rat, 7st 8lb, 1. Six started. Betting: 6 to 4 v. Little emmy, 4 to 1 v. The Rat and Sandfly, 6 to 1 v. others. Won by a length from Idle Girl. Second heat: J. M'Donald's Eurobin, 9st 8lb, 1. Five started. Betting: 2 to 1 v. Eurobin and Jenny Sly, 3 to 1 v. Becky Sharpe and La Tosca, 5 to 1 v. others. Won by a length from La Tosca.

Second Division.—First heat: C. Carroll's Daisy, 8st 6lb, 1. Five started. Betting: 2 to 1 v. True or Mabel Brook, 4 to 1 v. others. Won by a length from True. Second heat: J. Smith's Alicia, 8st 11lb, 1. Five started. Betting: 6 to 4 v. Alicia, 3 to 1 v. Carrie Swain and Winnie, 5 to 1 v. others. Won by a length from Carrie Swain. Third heat: W. Page's Timonee, 8st 11lb, 1. Five started. Betting: 6 to 4 on Squire Templar, 2 to 1 v. Timonee, 4 to 1 v. others. Won by a length from Squire Templar. Fourth heat: J. Mutton's Dolly Reine, 9st 1lb, 1. Seven started. Betting: 6 to 4 v. Jacko II., 3 to 1 v. Harmony and Meta, 5 to 1 v. others. Won by a length from Jacko II.

CRICKET.

The intercolonial match between New South Wales and Victoria will commence at Melbourne to-day with teams chosen from the following players:—New South Wales: Donnan, Iredale, Walters, Gould, Newell, Howell, Kelly, M'Kibbin, Mackenzie, Youll, W. Richardson, and Garrett. Victoria: Bruce, R. M'Leod, C. M'Leod, A. Trott, H. Trott, Graham, Trumble, Harry, P. Lewis, M. Roche, F. Laver, and S. Donohue emergency. Of the 54 matches already played Victoria has won 31 and New South Wales 23.

The annual borough match Waverley v. Randwick will be commenced on the Waverley Oval to-day, and will be continued on New Year's Day. Both boroughs will be strongly represented, although Waverley will be weakened by the absence of Noonan, who is in New Zealand, and H. Terry, who will be playing at Newcastle. Alderman J. P. Carroll (Waverley) and Mr. H. Roberts (Randwick) will umpire the match.

A team representing the New South Wales Junior Cricket Association will commence a match at the Sydney Cricket Ground to-day against the North Coast. The teams selected are:—Juniors: W. French, Loudes, M'Laughlin, Bingham, D. Campbell, Dalton, Bowtell, Joyce, R. J. Brown, Carroll, Dwyer, and Clissold. North Coast: Nicklin, Mackenzie, Murray, J. Simes, R. Simes, G. Bulmer, R. Bulmer, Russell, Gray, Eggins, and White. The match will be resumed on Saturday.

The Australasian Cricket Council will meet in Melbourne on Friday, when the manager of the next Australian eleven to visit England will be chosen. It is considered that Mr. H. Musgrove has a good chance of obtaining the position.

A fancy dress cricket match "Married v. Single Ladies of Rockdale" took place at Lady Robinson's Beach yesterday. There was a good attendance. The game was played in the interests of St. George's Hospital, a collection being taken on the ground. The game resulted in a win for the married ladies.

CYCLING.

Mr. G. W. Burston, president of the Melbourne Bicycle Club, has sent to some of his cycling friends in Sydney an artistic Christmas card with the season's greetings. It contains small maps of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, with a thin red line tracing Mr. Burston's recent tour. Portraits of Mr. Burston and his companion on his trip, Mr. Stokes, are given, with the motto "May the good luck which attended us be with you thro' the coming year."

CYCLING TOUR.

Mr. H. Henderson supplies to "Woorinda," of the Brisbane *Courier*, the following account of a trip which Mr. G. Diggles and himself undertook to the north-eastern districts of New South Wales:—They left Brisbane at 3.30 p.m. on the 4th December; Pimpama was reached at 6.30, and here they halted for the night. Next morning, after breakfast, a start was made; lunch was taken at Southport, and after a good run along the beach the Tweed Heads were reached at 4 p.m., where they remained for the night. Friday morning saw them on their way up the river to Murwillumbah, where they arrived at 11.30 a.m. Shortly afterwards the tourists entered the big scrub, which extends in a southerly direction for about 70 miles. The scenery on this stage is exceptionally good, and the hills very long, although not steep. They arrived at Burringbah at midday, and after a meal left for Byron Bay. The Brunswick River was crossed about 3.30 p.m., and it being low tide the beach was taken, and the bay reached about 4. Steady rain set in here, which compelled them to take train to Lismore, which was reached at 8 p.m. The rain now put a stop to all cycling, but some of the people of Lismore put horses and buggies at their disposal, and various places of interest were visited—namely, the hilly districts of Woolongla, Goonelabah, Westonville, and Bex Hill, where the scenery was really grand. Monday morning broke clear, and they were again able to mount, and a start was made for Casino and Disputed Plains. Tuesday morning saw them on their way down the beautiful Richmond River, through Coraki, Woodburn, Broadwater, and Wardell, Ballina, at the mouth, being reached about 4, when they were shown over the breakwater and harbour works by the engineer, which proved very interesting, and in the evening fishing was indulged in. Next morning they were away at 5, and a start for home along the beach was made. The scenery over the headlands eclipsed anything previously seen here. Rain again set in, and capes had to be brought into use. However, the tourists were soon in friendly shelter. Byron Bay, Murwillumbah, and the Tweed Heads were again passed, and Brisbane reached on Friday evening, 13th instant. So ended one of the most enjoyable outings, the pleasure of the trip being greatly added to by the hospitality of the people of the district.

AQUATICS.

SYDNEY FLYING SQUADRON.

Under the auspices of the above club two races were sailed yesterday afternoon over the triangular course from Clark Island, and were well patronised by a large number of visitors, the steamers Lobelia and Agenoria being taxed to the utmost. The first event, for 10ft. and 14ft. dingies, was won by the Young Clive, 10ft., admirably sailed by P. Holmes, while the second prize went to Saucy Jack, being the first boat home of a different class to the winner. The second race (sailed in two heats and a final) resulted in a win for the Young Harry (25ft.), sailed by H. Pearce, Secret (T. Langford) second, and Volunteer (C. Webb) third. The tide was strong ebb and the wind during the dingy race and heats of the general handicap from the north-east, but just at the finish of the second heat a strong southerly sprang up, which gave the boats engaged in the final heat all their work to keep afloat. The officials of the day were Messrs. W. R. Griffiths (umpire), J. Morgan (starter), and R. A. Jones (timekeeper). The particulars of the races are as follows:—

Dingies, 10ft. and 14ft.: Young Clive, 10ft. (P. Holmes); Vero, 10ft. (W. Yalk); Myra, 10ft. (W. Holmes); Viking, 10ft. (A. Williams); Etna, 14ft. (H. Harding); Wanda (C. P. M'Conville); Saucy Jack (J. Hayes); Young Victor (C. Dunn); Thomas Punch, 14ft. (J. Hawkes). These were the only starters, and, aided by their liberal handicaps, the 10ft. boats drew away from their larger rivals, and when the latter were despatched the small boats had obtained such a lead that all doubt as to the result was dispelled. Young Clive obtained a long lead, and maintained it to the finish, while for second place Vero and Viking made a splendid race. The 14-footers, though hopelessly in the rear, had a good tussle among themselves, and Saucy Jack finished slightly in front of Wanda and Thomas Punch. The positions at the finish were Young Clive, Vero, Viking, Saucy Jack, Wanda, Thomas Punch, Etna, Young Victor, and the prizes of £3 and £2 go to Young Clive and Saucy Jack respectively.

General Handicap (all boats 18ft. and upwards).—First heat: Ethel, 4½ minutes; Latona, 1½ minutes; Ellie, 2¾ minutes; Flying Fish, scratch; Volunteer, ½ minute; Minerva, 2¾ minutes. Ethel and Ellie did not face the starter, while the others got well away at the fall of their respective flags. Minerva and Volunteer did best in the hard blow on the work to Taylor Bay mark, which was rounded by the former 48 seconds ahead, while Latona and Flying Fish were some distance astern. These positions were unchanged on the lead to Shark Island, but the Volunteer had reduced the gap between her and the leader to nine seconds, and eventually passed her on the run home, winning by a few seconds, with Latona a long way off third. Second heat: Colina, 4½ minutes; Secret, 2 minutes; Kananook, 2½ minutes; Idothea, 1 minute; Young Harry, scratch; Willis, 1½ minute. Colina capsized prior to the race, but the others got away well to time. Secret sailing well soon went to the front, followed by Willis and Young Harry, which was the order at Taylor Bay mark, with Idothea and Kananook beaten off. The wind having fallen light balloon jibs and topsails were hoisted for the lead to Shark Island, and the length of the Young Harry told its tale, as she gradually left Willis and jibed round the buoy at Shark Island almost alongside Secret at 5h. 27m. 16s., the Willis following 40 seconds later. Young Harry went to the front on the run home, and the boats finished in the first of the southerly, Young Harry winning by about two lengths, with Willis third. Final heat: The breeze had now freshened considerably, and was blowing hard from the southward when the boats were sent on their journey. In every instance, with the exception of Volunteer, a good start was effected. Volunteer, Minerva, and Young Harry set balloon jibs, and the two back-mark boats rapidly overhauled the others, the order round the mark being Minerva, Secret, Willis, Latona, Volunteer, and Young Harry, with only 1 minute 18 seconds between the first and last boats. On the work to Shark Island the wind increased, and was blowing at times almost half a gale. Latona could not carry her mainsail, and consequently retired from the contest. Secret went into first position under Steel Point, but was ultimately displaced by Young Harry, which seemed to revel in the hard blow, and rounding the buoy at Shark Island for the run home the times were—Young Harry, 6h. 14m. 44s.; Secret, 6h. 14m. 53s.; Volunteer, 6h. 16m. 1s.; Willis, 6h. 17m. 32s. Running home Young Harry drew further away, and finished at 6h. 23m. 34s.; Secret, 6h. 24m. 28s.; Volunteer, 6h. 25m. 24s. These three boats take prizes of £7, £2, and £1 respectively. The Willis finished at 6h. 27m. 4s., while Minerva was not timed.

*A PRIMA DONNA WITH A FUTURE.*

AN INTERVIEW WITH MISS SUSAN STRONG.

I confess (writes a representative of the *Westminster Gazette*) I am always rather prone to funk an interview with a prima donna, but certainly there never was less occasion for any misplaced trepidation of this kind than in the case of Miss Susan Strong, the fair American, whose beautiful impersonation of Sieglinde made so profound an impression upon all who heard it at Covent Garden the other evening. For this wonderful young singer is no less modest and unassuming than she is accomplished. In fact, the difficulty was to get her to speak about herself at all. Her speech was all of the excellent Mr. Korbay, her teacher, to whom, as she affirms, the whole of the credit is due for the success which she achieved.

"He taught me everything," she observed on this point. "When I went to him first my ignorance was boundless, and as to my voice there was nothing of it, as you may imagine when I tell you that I could not get up to F without an effort. When I look back on what I was I can hardly credit the change which has been effected. Mr. Korbay taught me production and added many notes to my voice. In a word, whatever ability as a vocalist I now possess is due every bit of it to Mr. Korbay's wonderful teaching."

"About myself," said Miss Strong, her fine enthusiasm departing at once, "there is very little to tell. You know I am an American. I was born in Brooklyn. My father was a Senator, and at one time Mayor of the city. He did not encourage the notion of my going on the stage. Whenever such a thing was hinted at it was the signal for my trunks to be packed up and for me to be despatched forthwith on a pleasuring tour to some distant part of the States. But the device failed to extinguish my love for the stage, and when my father died no further obstacle remained. I can tell you, by the way, that I am the youngest of a family of 14.

"I first went to Mr. Korbay"—the irrepressible Korbay again!—"as a pupil when I was 16, though I had known him since I could walk; and it was on account of my knowing him so well that I was allowed to come to England to pursue my studies under his care just 11 months ago. That was the only reason I came to England."

"And how did this engagement, which has resulted so triumphantly, come about?"

"I was at Bayreuth at the time when Mr. Korbay"—*toujours* Korbay!—"wrote to ask if I would undertake the part of Sieglinde at the forthcoming performances, under Mr. Hedmondt's direction, at Covent Garden, and I replied at once that if he wished it I would do so."

"You had already been engaged by Madame Wagner for the next Bayreuth Festival?"

"Hardly that. Nothing has yet been definitely settled, though Madame Wagner, who was very kind to me, has made me an offer of an engagement from which something may come. I cannot tell you how I enjoyed my stay in Germany. After my visit to Bayreuth I went on to Munich, where, of course, I attended all the performances. Did I enjoy them? I can only say that I was an absolute wreck at the end of each one. They moved me so much."

"You were glad to make your début in Wagner?"

Miss Strong's face lighted up with enthusiasm at the question. "Who would not be?" she exclaimed. "There is no music in existence which appeals to me like Wagner's."

"And what are your future plans?"

"Well, I am to appear next as Elsa, as you may know, and as for the rest, I can say nothing at present. But I don't mind telling you that I am ambitious, and want to do great things. I love my work devotedly, and hope to do well at it. At present I am studying very hard. And I mean to continue doing so. How far success will crown my efforts time alone can show."

Miss Strong is too diffident. Time has shown already. With a remark to which effect our representative took his departure. It is hardly needful to add that since the above was written Miss Strong has appeared in due course as Elsa, with the success which one was entitled to anticipate.

"They come as a boon and a blessing to men." The PICKWICK, the OWL, and the WAVERLEY PEN.—[ADVT.

Do you intend to Preserve Fruit this season? If so, ask your Grocer now to do it with Anti-Fermentine.—[ADVT.]

*NEW LIGHT UPON THE NEW WOMAN.*

AN ALARMING STUDY IN SOCIAL EVOLUTION.

(*Westminster Gazette.*)

A new light on the new woman comes from the New World, as is fit and proper. Unfortunately, it is by no means a pleasant light. Hitherto it has been imagined by old-fashioned people in the Old World that the new woman, the very latest birth of time, was due to the desire of the fair creature to prove herself independent of the tyrant man. For the new woman was above all things emancipated. After long centuries of suppression she was to unfurl her wings and startle the astonished world with a demonstration of what woman can do when independent and unfettered by the soul-degrading conventions under which she has so long groaned.

And now from across the Atlantic comes a cruel disillusion, for we have the genesis of the new woman laid bare with a merciless hand by one of the newest of all new women in the New World. It came about in this way. At this time of year there is a great flocking of millionaires to the millionaires' paradise of Bar Harbour, lying by the sea at the foot of the mountains in the State of Maine. Bar Harbour is one of those extraordinary outgrowths of plutocracy which strangely enough seem to have escaped attention on this side of the Atlantic. Bar Harbour is a small place, which does not contain more than 1000 inhabitants in the winter time. In the season it is filled with a very select crowd of 10,000, which includes in its number some of the greatest millionaires in America. A recent investigator, after enumerating a string of millionaires who have planted "cottages" at Bar Harbour, gives up in despair, saying there are so many he cannot count them. Their cottages are magnificent palaces which have cost from £30,000 to £50,000 to build. The millionaire's "cottage" usually contains 40 or 50 rooms, and its stables are sights to see. Mr. Puntzer, of the *New York World*, is said to have spent 250,000dol. on his cottage at Bar Harbour. The fortunate owners of shore lots refuse to look at anything less than £2000 an acre, but on the edge of the hill where Mrs. Potter Palmer has established her new cottage, The Mercer, land is selling at £8000 per acre or 1dol. a square foot.

Bar Harbour is a social observatory, about the best in the United States, and Mrs. Potter Palmer, of all the ladies who queen it in this millionaires' paradise, is about the shrewdest and most impartial observer. For the benefit of parochial-minded Britons who do not read the fashionable intelligence of Porkopolis it may be necessary to say who Mrs. Palmer Potter is. Mrs. Palmer was the president of the Women's Auxiliary of the World's Columbian Exposition, and as such it fell to her part to play the rôle of uncrowned queen during the prolonged series of festivities and junketings which formed not the least important part of the great Fair. In her splendid house on the lake front, where she has one of the finest picture galleries in America, Mrs. Potter Palmer dispensed an almost regal hospitality, and from having been a mere "society lady" leaped at a bound to the very summit of fame among American women. She is a Southerner by birth, but is naturalised in Chicago by virtue of her marriage with Mr. Palmer, of the well-known Palmer House, which is the oldest and most famous of all the Western hotels. She has travelled much, and spent last winter in Cairo and Constantinople, stopping a few days in London on her return journey. No other society woman in America is so closely connected with the woman's movement as a whole, and few have had such extended opportunities of observing how things are going.

Hence the sensation which has been occasioned by her sudden and unexpected declaration on the great question of the New Woman. She confided to a recent interviewer that she is "somewhat horrified at the change in the relations of the sexes that the woman's movement has brought about." As the interviewer intimated as politely as he could that no living woman had been more responsible for the spread of this movement in the highest circles, Mrs. Palmer hastened to explain that she was all for the advanced woman movement as far as it helped women to earn wages more nearly equal to those of men doing the same work. Even when taking this standpoint Mrs. Potter Palmer had her eye fixed on the marriage market, and as her discourse proceeded it was evident that her point of view was matrimonial throughout. If women earn better wages they will no longer be driven to marriage by starvation. Hence a reduction in the number of women in the marriage market. This relief, she fears, will be but trivial compared with the revolution that is being wrought before her eyes. The new women are absolutely being driven by direct necessity to making advances to men: "It is positively true," she declares, "at least in the society in which I have moved, that the girls are now making more advances than the men. They can't help it, poor things. It is not their fault. The conditions have been forced upon them. Either they must make the advances or be left alone." All the cycling, boating, golfing, and similar avocations of the new woman are, according to Mrs. Palmer, adopted merely in order to do everything that could in decency be done to be near the young men. Mrs. Palmer does not complain that girls ride wheels, and drive traps, and play tennis and golf, and go boating, and all that sort of thing. Her complaint is that they have been forced to take to those amusements in order to protect themselves against absolute nonentity. So it comes about that it is not, after all, the new woman that is to blame, but the new man. He is the culprit. He thinks more of his sports, his male friends, and his clubs than of his sisters or other men's sisters. The result is, they have to be literally hunted down, and we have this alarming prospect set forth on this unimpeachable authority as the result of her own personal observation at Bar Harbour and elsewhere:—"If this tendency increases, the first thing we know, the young woman will be compelled to make proposals of marriage or remain for ever single. They have come dangerously near it already. The half-concealed seeking, the management, the tact, the ingenuity, the leading, are now all in the hands of the girls and their mothers. Nothing remains but for them to seek a fitting moment to kneel at the young man's feet, declare undying love, and propose matrimony. It makes my heart sink within me to hear girls telephoning for young men, begging for their company at tennis, or in a drive, or out boating—mere devices and pretexts for getting at the young man himself." Ah! What a revelation is here! Some wicked persons suspected it all along; but who would have dreamed that the newest of new women would herself have proclaimed to the world that all novelties of the new young women are only so many ingenious devices for getting at the new young men?

*THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC AND NATIVE RACES.*

SPEECH BY KHAMA.

The Duke and Duchess of Westminster on 4th November gave a breakfast at Grosvenor House in honour of Khama, chief of the Bamangwato Tribe, Sebele, chief of the Bakwena Tribe, and Bathoen, chief of the Banwaketse Tribe. The guests invited to meet the African chiefs (says the *Daily Chronicle*) were for the most part members of the Native Races and Liquor Traffic United Committee. The seat of honour between the Duke and Duchess of Westminster was assigned to Khama, while his brother chiefs sat on the left of the Duke. Among others present were—The Bishop of London and Mrs. Temple, Lord and Lady Loch, the Hon. and Rev. Carr-Glynn and Lady Carr-Glynn, Sir George Baden-Powell, M.P., and Lady Baden-Powell, the Rev. Canon Wilberforce, Lady Frederick Cavendish, Canon Murnane (Total Abstinence League of the Cross), Sir Frederick Young, General Edgcumbe, Dr. Guinness Rogers, Dr. Clifford, Mr. Albert Spicer, M.P., the Rev. Wardlaw Thompson, the Hon. Conrad Dillon, Lady Edward Cavendish, the Marchioness of Ormonde, Captain Lugard, Dr. Moller, Mr. John Hilton, Dr. Harford Battersby, the Hon. Captain Lawley, and Dr. Newman Hall.

The Bishop of London, immediately after breakfast, rose to move the following resolution:—"That this meeting of the members and friends of the Native Races and Liquor Traffic United Committee, assembled in Grosvenor House on Monday, 4th November, 1895, express the strong hope that whatever course may be taken in the future with reference to the administration of Bechuanaland, her Majesty's Government will adhere to their decision not to allow the law of prohibition now in force in Khama's territory to be in any way altered, and that they will carefully watch the operation of this law with a view to protecting the natives from degradation and demoralisation." He said the question of the demoralisation of native races had been before a special committee for some time past, and that committee had endeavoured by every means in their power to impress upon the various Governments concerned the paramount importance for moral and religious reasons of preventing the horrible mischief that was being done to native races in Africa by the ordinary operations of British commerce. British commerce ought to be a blessing wherever it penetrated, for commerce was God's instrument for civilising the human race. British commerce ought to be the handmaid of British culture and British religion, but instead of this, wherever it came into contact with native races it inflicted upon them the most terrible evil it was possible for human agency to inflict. He knew of nothing more terrible than to contemplate that wherever we penetrated there must also penetrate the fearful trade in strong drink among races not accustomed to the use of it. It was bad enough here in England, but it was much worse among native races, because the temptation was new to them. And we took the lead in inflicting this evil, because British commerce took the lead generally. At the present time they thought mainly of one particular chief, of one particular territory, because there they had the spectacle of a noble man at the head of his people determined with all the power he possessed to keep them from this curse. (Cheers.) But he was now threatened, and he came to them to assist him. They ought to show him that they sympathised with him, and that they would assist him as far as they were able to keep out the demon drink from his territory. (Cheers.) It was their duty not to allow a man of his high character to be thwarted in one of the noblest purposes that man could have. (Cheers.)

Sir G. Baden-Powell, M.P., in seconding the resolution, said he knew Khama before European political influence came into his country, and he could say of him that he was a wise and just ruler. When he visited Khama in 1885, in company with Sir Charles Warren, he found in his country a system of government which would have been a credit to any British Administration. He was a thorough-going, and, if he might say so, muscular Christian. He led his tribe in the just wars in their own defence, and he introduced among his people a variety of civilised customs and principles of which any British colony might well be proud. He was now prepared to surrender a large section of his country to the British power on condition that in the remaining section—sufficient for his tribe—the present sound liquor legislation and administration was perpetuated. (Cheers.) Beyond that he only asked for certain hunting rights over the section to be surrendered. Before he left he was to see the Queen, and he (Sir G. Baden-Powell) hoped and believed, as a result of his interview, that he would be able to leave this country with the conviction that the present liquor prohibition law would be perpetuated. (Cheers.)

The resolution having been adopted,

The Duke of Westminster offered a cordial welcome to the three chiefs, and to the many representatives of temperance and missionary societies who had come there to take part in that unique festival. He sincerely hoped that Khama would be successful in his righteous mission. He was a noble product of missionary work in Africa, and he was, as they knew, a very exceptional man in exceptional circumstances. He had been our good ally, and his wishes in this matter were entitled to the consideration of the Government. His Grace then, in his capacity of President of the Native Races and Liquor Traffic United Committee, presented Khama with an illuminated address, welcoming him to this country, and expressing deep sympathy with him in the persistent efforts which he had made to preserve his people from demoralisation and degradation by the liquor traffic.

Lord Loch said he had perhaps had more direct official communication and intercourse with Khama and the other chiefs than any other person, and he could speak of his rule as being most beneficent. He quite agreed as to the necessity of protecting native races from the liquor traffic. There was, he thought, some misapprehension in this country as to the views of the Government, and also with regard to the views of the Chartered Company on this subject. Both the Government and the company, he believed, were in accord with them as to the desirability of prohibiting the sale of drink to native races in Africa, and he had every faith that the Government would not relax the prohibition laws in Khama's country, which hitherto had been well administered. He had equal confidence in Mr. Rhodes, should the Chartered Company at any time take over the Protectorate. As he had said, he knew Khama very well, and he regarded him as a personal friend. (Cheers.)

Khama then returned thanks for the address. He said: I rejoice to hear the words that have been spoken here to-day, because I have hindered strong drink from coming into my country and town, and I hope to prevent it from entering. I have had the power of restraining my people from drinking the liquor, but to-day that power is more in the hands of the white people, and they seek to bring liquor into the country, so that if I am not helped I shall be overcome by those who have power there. Strong drink—I do not rejoice on account of it to see it in my country. Strong drink is an army that is making attacks on people every day. These are the words which I speak to the company when I am told that I am to be placed under their hands: because while I live in my country they will be causing strong drink to pass through my country to Buluwayo. (Hear, hear.) I know that it will be stored in houses in my town; before it can be forwarded to Matabeleland, and my people will be seeing it day by day, and that will be a great temptation to my people. (Cheers.) I appeal to you, the English people, whether you think that such things as these are just and right, and I ask you to help me in the difficult position in which I find myself. (Cheers.) Strong drink cannot travel through a country by itself, as it were, but it always takes with it a great many other things. The influences which accompany strong drink are the things which bring a man into the fire. Strong drink knows no wherever it is, or even the works of the town itself, they are hindered by strong drink. You are the people who have given us missionaries formerly to teach us, but strong drink does and will hinder the work of missionaries while they are in our country. I give you thanks to-day for the kindly way in which you have received me, and I see that I am here in very kind hands. These are all my words. (Cheers.)

Captain Lugard, in the course of a short address, said he could endorse all that had been said as to the terrible evil of drink among native races. He rejoiced in the appointment of Mr. Chamberlain, who took a deep interest in Africa, and they might rest assured that this matter would not be treated by him indifferently or with apathy. One of the stock arguments against British action in Western Africa and elsewhere was that we could not act without the co-operation of France and Germany. That was an absurdly overdrawn argument, and he believed it more than probable that co-operation would not be withheld if it were asked for. (Cheers.)

Mr. Wardlaw Thompson briefly addressed the meeting, after which the proceedings terminated.

*HEINE AND MARX.*

AN INTERESTING LETTER.

Heinrich Heine and Carl Marx stood in relations of personal friendship to each other. As bearing upon this, the following letter, recently published in the German Socialist review, *Die Neue Zeit*, of Stuttgart, is of interest:—

"Hamburg, September 21, 1844.

"Dearest Marx,—I am again suffering from my unfortunate eye malady, and it is with difficulty that I scratch you these lines. All the same, the important communications I have to make to you I can tell you verbally at the beginning of next month, since I am preparing for my departure, being rendered uneasy owing to a hint from the higher powers. I have no inclination to let myself be caught, and my legs have no talent for carrying about iron rings like Weitling. He showed me the traces of them. I am credited with greater participation in the *Vorwärts* than I can boast, and, to be perfectly candid, the paper displays a most masterly ability in irritating and compromising people. What does it mean that even Maurer is attacked? But more on this subject verbally. I only hope that there will be no perfidies concocted in Paris. My book is printed, but will not be published here for 10 or 14 days, in order that there may be no immediate noise about it. The proof sheets of the political portion, especially my great poem, I forward to you to-day in a postal wrapper for three reasons. In the first place, in order to amuse you; secondly, that you may be able early to adopt measures to influence the German press in favour of the book; and, thirdly, that you may have the opportunity, should you think it advisable, of getting first specimens of the new poem printed in the *Vorwärts*.

"I think that all up to the end of the sixteenth chapter of the great poem suitable for reproduction, only you will have to take care that the part in which Cologne is dealt with—namely, the chapters 4, 5, 6, and 7—is not printed separately, but appears in the same number. The same is the case with the part concerning Old Barbarossa, to wit, the chapters 14, 15, and 16, which will have also to be printed in the same number. Please write an introductory word to these extracts. I shall bring the beginning of the book with me to Paris; it only consists of romances and ballads, which will, however, please your wife. Please greet her very heartily for me; I am looking forward to seeing her again. I hope the next winter will be less melancholy for us than the last one.

"Campe is now making a special edition of the great poem, in which the censorship has crossed out some passages, but to which I am writing a preface of a very plain-spoken character; I have here thrown down the gauntlet to the Nationalists in the most decided manner. I shall send it you later on as soon as it is printed. Please write to Hess, whose address I do not know, and ask him to do all he can for it in the press on the Rhine as soon as my book reaches him, whether the bears pounce upon it or not. I would ask you also to requisition Jungh for a helpful article. Should you sign with your own name introductory words in the *Vorwärts* that I have asked for, you can say that I have sent you the sheets straight from the press. You understand the reason why, in another way, I should gladly be relieved of this observation. Be so good as to try and see Weil, and tell him, in my name, that I have only just received his letter, which went to the wrong Henri Heine (there are several of them here). I shall see him again personally in a fortnight, and in the meantime he must not print a single line about me, least of all respecting my new poem. I shall, perhaps, write to him, if my eyes permit of it, before my departure. Friendly greetings to Bernays. I am glad that I am coming away. I have already sent my wife in advance to France to her mother, who lies on her deathbed. Farewell, dear friend, and excuse my confused scrawl. I cannot reread what I have written; but we require few signs in order to understand each other!—Very sincerely, HEINRICH HEINE."

*THIODON'S WONDERS, MANLY.*

At the Corso Hall, Manly, Thiodon's Wonders will be one of the special features of the amusements at this favourite resort. The figures in the exhibition are lifelike, and are a marvel of mechanical skill.

Your Fruits will not spoil if you use Anti-Fermentine For Sale by all Storekeepers.—[ADVT.]

ANTI-FERMENTINE Preserves Fruit without cooking. Your Storekeeper will tell you all about it.—[ADVT.]

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# MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

Wednesday Evening.

To-day, being Christmas Day, was observed as a general holiday.

As foreshadowed in the last speech of the president of the Bank of New South Wales, it has been decided that there shall be laid before the shareholders at the next and all subsequent half-yearly meetings a statement of the bank's affairs made up at all the branches to the same date—that is, to the 31st March and the 30th September in each year—in place of at various dates, as has hitherto been the practice. With the half-yearly meetings held as they have been it has been found impossible to get the accounts to the dates named from London, New Zealand, and the far north of Queensland, and have them examined at the head office. In order to carry out the determination of the board a short postponement of the semi-annual meetings into the middle of May and November, instead of at the end of April and October as heretofore, is absolutely required. The shareholders are assured that no longer delay than is necessary will take place. And with that assurance they may well rest content, as it is undoubtedly in their interest that the object for which the postponement is asked should be effected. To complete the examination of accounts from all the Australian colonies, New Zealand, and Great Britain, and present them to shareholders within six or seven weeks from the date of balance, cannot be regarded as slow work.

The Queensland Treasury Notes Amendment Bill, which has just become law, authorises the Government to make a further issue of £500,000 of Treasury bills, so as to enable it to extend its issue of Treasury notes. The Government asked for £1,000,000, but consented to a reduction by one-half, making the total authority £1,500,000. Under the Act of 1893, which created Treasury bills to the amount of £1,000,000, the limit of the note issue was £883,000, represented by £250,000 in gold and by £633,000, two-thirds of the face value of £1,000,000 of Treasury bills. As in November notes to the amount of £850,000 had been issued, and it was stated that the issue was increasing at the rate of £10,000 a month. Mr. Nelson contends that there was a necessity for the creation of further bills to admit of the expansion of the circulation. In a statement published in the *Brisbane Courier*, he maintains that, as regards security, convertibility, and general convenience to the public, the Treasury notes are to be preferred to bank notes. There is, he urges, no force in the criticism that an extension of the authority to issue Treasury bills would lead to their improper use, inasmuch as that involved the belief that the President of the Legislative Council, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Colonial Treasurer, and Under-Secretary to the Treasury and the Auditor-General might collectively conspire to defraud the colony, and as to a possible increase of the Treasury bills leading to an unwarranted expansion of the note issue he holds that there was an all-sufficient security against inflation in the constant and immediate convertibility of the notes. So far, he declares, the position is such that if it were possible for all the notes now in the hands of the public and the banks to be presented for payment on one day they would be met instantly from the Treasurer's coin reserve. If that is the case, it is difficult to see where the profit of the Treasury note-issue has been. It appears that only about £424,000, the amount of the Treasury notes issued, are in the hands of the public. In December, 1892, the note-circulation of the Queensland banks was £575,400; so that the figures represent a considerable reduction.

During the past year the colonies have not borrowed heavily in the London market, and the loans which have been raised have been mostly redemption loans. They were as follow :—

| — | Amount. | Interest charge p.c. per annum. |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ s. d. |
| Jan. 8—Tasmanian 4 p.c. ... ... | 750,000 | 3 13 2 |
| April 25—Queensland 3½ p.c. ... ... | 1,250,000 | 3 10 7 |
| May 2—W. Australia 3½ p.c. ... | 750,000 | 3 7 0 |
| May 3—New Zealand 3 p.c. ... ... | 1,500,000 | 3 5 9 |
| Oct. 10—N. S. Wales 3 p.c. ... ... | 4,000,000 | 3 3 9 |
| | 8,250,000 | 3 6 3 |
| Locally : | | |
| June 7—S. Australia 3½ p.c. ... ... | 311,000 | 3 10 7 |
| Oct. 1—Melb. Board of Works 4 p.c. | 500,000 | 3 14 2 |

The amount of the loans was more than in 1894, as will be seen from the following figures :—

| Year. | Where Raised. | Amount. | Actual interest rate p.c. per annum. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | £ s. d. |
| 1889 | London ... ... | 11,617,800 | 3 9 4 |
| 1890 | London ... ... | 6,254,000 | 3 12 2 |
| 1891 | London ... ... | 10,705,400 | 3 18 10 |
| 1892 | London ... ... | 7,120,000 | 4 1 3 |
| 1892 | Locally ... ... | 850,000 | 4 4 3 |
| 1893 | London ... ... | 7,551,000 | 4 3 9 |
| 1893 | Locally ... ... | 2,558,000 | 4 7 2 |
| 1894 | London ... ... | 2,847,000 | 3 17 2 |
| 1894 | Locally ... ... | 400,000 | 4 0 0 |
| 1895 | London ... ... | 8,250,000 | 3 6 3 |
| 1895 | Locally ... ... | 811,000 | 3 10 7 |

Although the total of the loans was so considerable, the bulk of the money was to pay off old loans, wholly in the case of the New South Wales issue of £4,000,000. In no previous year had the loans been negotiated at such a high average price. In 1889, at the time of Goschen's conversion scheme, the highest prices had previously been obtained, yielding the investor only £3 9s 4d per cent. In the following years troubles occurred to disturb the money market at first, and then the credit of the colonies, but within the past two years there has been a great recovery, and, where the colonies could only borrow at prices which cost them £4 3s 9d per cent. in London and £4 7s 2d per cent. locally, they have this year been able to obtain prices involving payment in London of £3 6s 3d per cent., and in the colonies of £3 10s 7d per cent. For the first time this year Australian colonies have borrowed at the nominal rate of 3 per cent. New Zealand led the way in May with a loan of £1,500,000, and obtained the average price of £94 8s 9d, the actual cost to the colony being £3 5s 9d per cent. New South Wales followed in October, borrowing £4,000,000 at a net average of £96 8s 8d, the actual rate payable being £3 3s 9d per cent. The latter represents the best terms yet obtained by an Australasian colony in the London market.

The reduction in the value of money is seen also in the borrowings in Australia. The Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works, which last year raised £500,000 at £4 10s 6d per cent. per annum, this year obtained a like amount from the same source at £3 14s 2d per cent. per annum.

The production of gold and silver continues to expand. Mr. R. E. Preston, the director of the United States Mint, estimates the world's production of gold for the year 1894 at 8,705,800 fine ounces, of the value of £35,993,000, and the production of silver at 166,602,000oz., of the value of £21,051,000. The figures are as follow for the past 10 years :—

| Year. | Gold. £ | Silver. Fine Oz. |
|---|---|---|
| 1894 | 35,993,000 | 166,602,000 |
| 1893 | 31,450,000 | 165,166,000 |
| 1892 | 29,368,000 | 153,152,000 |
| 1891 | 26,130,000 | 137,171,000 |
| 1890 | 23,780,000 | 126,095,000 |
| 1889 | 24,689,000 | 120,214,000 |
| 1888 | 22,139,000 | 108,827,000 |
| 1887 | 20,155,000 | 96,124,000 |
| 1886 | 20,120,000 | 93,276,000 |
| 1885 | 21,080,000 | 91,652,000 |

An increase of £4,534,000 in the gold production, and one of 1,436,000oz. of silver, are apparent in these estimates. The increases of both metals in nine years were very great, 65 per cent. in the case of gold, and 72 per cent. in the case of silver. Since the fall in the price of silver within the past two years the rate of increase in the production of the metal has been greatly lessened, while on the other hand the greater value of gold has stimulated the production. In the last three years the output of gold in the principal countries of the world has been as follows :—

| — | 1894. | 1893. | 1892. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| United States ... ... | 7,900,000 | 7,191,100 | 6,600,000 |
| Australasia ... ... | 8,302,200 | 7,157,700 | 6,891,800 |
| Africa ... ... ... | 8,064,200 | 5,788,700 | 4,846,400 |
| Russia ... ... ... | 4,826,700 | 5,561,000 | 4,961,200 |
| China ... ... ... | 1,711,400 | 1,378,000 | 1,495,200 |
| India ... ... ... | 797,400 | 722,700 | 663,700 |
| Columbia ... ... | 578,000 | 578,400 | 694,400 |
| British Guiana ... ... | 462,000 | 518,500 | 479,800 |
| Brazil ... ... ... | 443,900 | 443,900 | 449,900 |
| All other countries ... | 2,356,700 | 2,108,000 | 2,156,600 |
| | 35,993,100 | 31,450,400 | 29,365,000 |

Africa and Australasia furnished the largest increase in output, our own continent giving the largest return. We shall not be surprised to see Africa this year presenting the largest figures. Mr. Preston believes that the production of gold in the near future will be much greater than in the past; his estimate of the world's industrial annual consumption of gold is £10,436,000, and of silver £6,668,000, the silver being taken at its coining value.

## IMPORT MARKET.

All business houses were closed to-day and will not reopen until Friday. Book-work will then chiefly occupy merchants' attention, business of importance being seldom transacted between Christmas and New Year's Day.

Regarding the world's market for sugar beet, Messrs. William Connal and Co., writing from Glasgow previous to the departure of the last mail, state :—

The first estimates of this season's beetroot crops were published on the 30th ultimo by Mr. Giesecker, of Brussels, and showed a deficiency of 1,160,000 tons for this campaign as compared with last. This was a larger figure than had been expected, and caused an immediate improvement in prices. The value of first products beet on 30th September was 10s 4½d f.o.b. Hamburg, basis 88 per cent. analysis, but on the 1st October 10s 7½d was realised, on 2nd October 10s 9d, on the 3rd 10s 10½d, and on the 7th 11s 1½d, while other descriptions of sugar showed a similar advance. A large business was done during these days, both to the trade and speculators, all of whom showed anxiety to secure stock in the expectation of further material improvement. The estimates of Mr. Licht, of Magdeburg, were not published until a later date, but his weekly circular expressed the opinion that, in his judgment, the European deficiency would not be so great, as from the favourable weather prevailing good progress in weight was being made by the roots still in the ground, without much deterioration of their saccharine richness. This caused a quieter feeling and a pause in buying operations, and with some desire to sell on the part of factories, the value of first products declined on the 12th instant to 10s 7½d f.o.b. Hamburg basis 88 per cent. analysis, at which, with slight fluctuations, it has since remained.

## EXPORT MARKET.

Messrs. Anning and Cobb, in their latest market report regarding the sales of Australian leather and basils, state :—

At the sales on the 1st instant there was a quiet trade. Leather, although irregular, was rather weaker. Basils also were dull, and large withdrawals were made. The demand was chiefly confined to light weights, which sold fully up to last sales' prices. Eighty-two bales leather offered, 63 bales sold. Sydney, heavy, 9d to 10½d; extra heavy, 10½d; light, 7½d to 8½d; seconds, 8½d to 9½d; Brisbane, extra heavy, 10d. 293 bales basils offered, 79 bales sold. Melbourne, finished, averaging 6½ to 9½ lb. per dozen, firsts 11½d, seconds 9½d to 10½d, thirds 8d to 8½d; soft, averaging 6½ to 17½ lb. per dozen, firsts 9d to 9½d, seconds 7½d, greasy 6d, first lambs 10½d; Sydney, strained, averaging 15 to 18½ lb. per dozen, greasy, 5½d to 6d; averaging 9½ to 11½ lb. per dozen, firsts 8½d to 9½d, seconds 8½d to 8½d, stained 8½d; averaging 7½ to 9½ lb. per dozen, seconds 7½d to 7½d, thirds 6d to 6½d, lambs 6½d per lb.

Messrs. W. Weddel and Co. thus comment on the English wheat market under date 1st November :—

A distinctly firmer tone has characterised the market during the past fortnight, although in consequence of a weaker tendency in America prices do not close at the best. The statistical position generally, however, is favourable to improved values in the near future. Shipments afloat are exceedingly light for the United Kingdom especially, and for the Continent they are by no means heavy. At present the position seems to point to our falling back upon warehoused stocks, and this usually tends to stiffen prices. The position is not exactly such as to create any excitement amongst buyers, but it will doubtless keep the market generally, for some time to come, in a more healthy state. Cold weather has set in unusually early this year, and the frost and snow have interfered, in some portions of the United Kingdom, very considerably with sowing operations. On the Continent the weather has not been so severe, and the farmers are actively pushing forward the completion of the wheat sowing.

The *Public Ledger* of 15th November deals with the visible supplies of coffee in the world's markets as follows :—

The European stocks of coffee, according to Messrs. Duuring and Zoon, showed an addition of barely 2000 tons during October, as compared with an increase of 4550 tons last year, making the total on the 1st instant 93,500 tons against 60,250 tons, showing the smaller relative surplus of 30,250 tons. The visible supply of the world on the 1st instant showed a decrease of 600 tons for the month against an increase of 18,500 tons last year, the total being 193,810 tons against 188,140 tons in 1894. The receipts in Rio and Santos have been above those in the previous season, bringing the total to date up to 2,832,000 bags against 3,009,000 bags. The Rio Exchange has fallen rapidly, closing at 9 5-16d, after having declined to 9 1-16d. The terminal markets have been dull and cheaper. The London market has been flat, and prices close 2s to 2s 9d lower. The sales of fair channel Rio registered by the London Produce Clearing House are 10,500 bags as compared with 7000 bags in the previous week, quotations closing as follows :—November at 60s 3d, December at 60s 3d, March 66s, and May 64s 9d. The Havre market closed weaker, good average Santos December ranging between 89½f. and 92½f., closing at 89½f., March between 88f. and 91f., closing at 87f., May between 88f. and 89f., closing at 86f. Hamburg November closed at 75⅞ marks.

## ENGLISH COMMERCIAL.

[By Cable.]

(From our Correspondent.)

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Wheat Statistics.

The quantity of wheat and flour afloat for the United Kingdom is estimated at 2,319,000 quarters.

The quantity afloat for the Continent is estimated at 1,035,000 quarters.

Mining Stocks.

Mount Morgan Gold-mining Company's shares are quoted at 58s 9d.

British Broken Hill Proprietary Silver-mining Company's shares are quoted at 12s.

## *ITINERANT MUSICIANS AND STREET CRIERS.*

The London *Standard*, commenting on a letter it publishes addressed by the Vestry of St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, to the London County Council, on the subject of itinerant musicians and street criers, says :—A similar appeal was made from the same quarter sometime ago, when a reply was received from the council to the effect that, although they undoubtedly had the power to enact bylaws on this subject, they judged it inexpedient to make regulations which they could not enforce. A second letter from the vestry, arguing that the council were under an express statutory obligation to exercise their power, received no answer, and from that time to this the matter has remained in abeyance, the nuisance, meantime, continuing daily to increase. What the council mean by saying that they would not be able to enforce such bylaws we do not care to inquire. Railway companies can give effect to their bylaws. They do not demand a special police force under their own control to assist them. We only ask the council to try the experiment. Let them enact the necessary regulations, and the public will see to them being carried out. All we can say is that if the council turn a deaf ear to all such representations, and refuse to interfere in a matter where the health, comfort, and daily work of so many of their constituents are at stake, the inhabitants of this metropolis must look for redress elsewhere. *Fata viam invenient.* The council may rest assured of this, that if London were broken up into the separate municipalites which are growing more and more in favour with public opinion every day, no such grievance would have remained unredressed for many weeks. If Kensington were under a local self-government of its own, short work would speedily be made of the nuisance now complained of. It is difficult to say which are the worse, the itinerant vendors of vegetables, coals, fruit, wood, and other commodities of the kind, or the organ-grinders and brass bands, whose incessant performances are equally discordant and more inexcusable. Almost before it is light in the morning the unhappy inhabitant of Kensington is roused from his slumbers by the shrieks of the street traders. With the harsh, hoarse notes of the potato man will too often be mingled the long, melancholy howl of the chimney-sweep, who, apparently, thinks it better to disturb a whole street than to ring the bell of a single house. Towards noon these sounds die away, and are succeeded by the hurdy-gurdy and the street piano. As the afternoon passes into evening the band takes up the dreadful tale, and goes on without ceasing till the public-houses close. As is truly pointed out in the letter we have published, all persons whose occupations are followed at their own residences—artists, musicians, men of letters, scholars and students of every description—are terrible sufferers from this series of unnecessary inflictions. And for those whose work keeps them up late at night, and who are in their first sleep about the time when the chimney-sweep begins his serenade, the effect is very serious indeed. The annoyance has been on the increase during the last few years, and has now reached a height at which it is becoming unbearable, and, apathetic as Londoners are in an ordinary way, they will not submit to it much longer.

## *THE DEAF CHILDREN OF DEAF PARENTS.*

From Hartmann's statistics we gather that every fifty-seventh or fifty-eighth child born in marriage contracted by deaf persons inherits the deficiency. Mygge finds in the marriages of deaf parents, including those in which both or only one parent is deaf, that every sixty-second child is so affected, which is certainly much greater than the proportion in the general population. From other sources the fact has been elicited that the probablity of congenital deafness is nearly seven times greater when both parents are deaf than when only one is. Another interesting statement, the outcome of observations by Turner, of the Columbia Institution, is that one-tenth of the children born of parents of whom one was a deaf mute were afflicted in the same manner, one-third of the children being deaf mutes when both parents were the subjects of that condition. Thus the proportion of deaf children when both parents are so affected is more than three times greater than when only one parent is; and we may conclude that congenital deaf mutism is the result of hereditary influences, which are intensified when coming from both parents. There are often several deaf children in a family; it has been found that about 40 per cent. of congenital deaf mutes had deaf and dumb brothers. With reference to this point, viz., the relationship of the deaf, Mygind says that deafness is comparatively frequent among the relatives of deaf mutes. It is least frequent in the direct ascending line (parents, grandparents), more so in the collateral branches (uncles, aunts), but most of all amongst the brothers and sisters, and therefore one is justified in supposing that the manner in which deaf mutism appears in different generations is a result of certain qualities appertaining to its congenital form. Consanguineous marriages are believed to play a part in favouring congenital deafness. Tuberculosis and drunkenness also appear as causes; about 11 per cent. of the parents of deaf mutes were found by Mygge to be addicted to drink, and 8·7 of the parents of children suffering from acquired deafness.—*The Hospital.*

Bossy Little and Co., Grain and Produce Auctioneers' sales daily at Redfern. Highest prices, prompt returns.—[Advt.]

Berry Creamery Butter. Sole Agents: South Coast and West Camden Co-op. Co., Ltd.—[Advt.]

# MINING INTELLIGENCE.

The Sydney Stock Exchange being closed yesterday on account of the holidays no business was transacted.

## MINING AT MOUNT PERRY.

It is gratifying to learn (says the *Bundaberg Star*, Queensland), that the output of gold, not only on the Eidsvold field, but also from the district around Mount Perry, has shown a large increase during the last three months, in which period some 1500oz. in all has been received by the local Bank of New South Wales. A nice lot which has just reached the bank comprised two bars of gold weighing in all 417oz., which are the proceeds of a recent crushing of 38 tons at the Lady Augusta, Eidsvold, a result of nearly 11oz. to the ton. This was not picked stone, but was taken as it came. In addition to the bars mentioned, there were 14 smaller ones, comprising one weighing 74oz., one of 56oz., the remainder being lighter, 9½oz. being the smallest. There were also several packets of alluvial gold, of which the two largest were 18oz. and 12oz. respectively.

## BRITISH BROKEN HILL.

The date of the half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the British Broken Hill Proprietary Company was fixed for the 19th December, in London. The directors' report for the half-year ended the 30th June was to the following effect :—The balance-sheet is framed on the new capital account, as reduced from £1,330,000 to £264,000. From the report of Mr. Retallick, the manager at Broken Hill of the company's mine, it will be seen that a large amount of exploratory work has been done during the half-year now under review, with very favourable results as regards the reserves of both carbonate and sulphide ores brought to sight and now available for stoping. The ore sold during the half-year, after deducting freight, produced £5240 5s 1d, and after paying all expenses of mining, assaying, carriage, &c., it yielded the very handsome net profit of £3 5s per ton, leaving on hand 4000 tons, of the estimated selling value of £4280 15s. The bulk of this ore was obtained from Marks's shaft (No. 6). The quantity of ore discovered and opened out during the half-year by exploration cannot be estimated at less than 50,000 tons, and the capital value of the mine may fairly be regarded as increased by at least this amount. The cost of this exploration has been ascertained by the colonial committee to be £3365 15s 2d. In the balance-sheet £2000 of this sum has been credited to increase of value of the mine, and the balance of £1365 15s 2d has been written off. From the balance-sheet it will be seen that the liquid assets, after deducting the amounts due to sundry creditors, amounted to £43,149 9s 4d, as against £43,191 7s 1d on 31st December, 1894, thus leaving the position of the company unaltered in this respect, but it is to be pointed out that for this purpose the ore in stock is only taken at a cost being about £900 below its estimated selling value. For some time past the Adelaide directors have been carefully watching the result of different means of concentration of carbonate and sulphide ores, and are much impressed by the success which has attended the use, by neighbouring Barrier mines, of Hancock's jigs—a method of concentration carried on at a comparatively low cost, and capable of rendering low-grade ores both valuable and marketable. The crude ore is at present unsalable owing to the quantity of gangue contained in it; but the Adelaide directors are satisfied that, by concentration in the manner above indicated, it will be rendered marketable, and a very profitable business will ensue. On their urgent representations, and subject to proper scientific advice and a report recommending the expenditure, the board has authorised the erection, at a cost not exceeding £10,000, of a plant capable of treating up to 2000 tons weekly; and if the advices which the board has received from the colony are substantiated, this cost should be more than repaid out of the profits during the first half-year's working. The treatment of sulphide ores is engaging the close attention of the directors, and they are anxiously looking for some thoroughly satisfactory method of dealing with ores of this complex character. Several methods have been, and some still are, under their consideration. Meanwhile, they have every hope that the ores of the company, concentrated by the Hancock jigs, and thus made marketable, will be readily disposed of in the colonies and Europe at a substantial profit. Two of the directors, accompanied by metallurgical experts, went in June last to inspect a process of which they entertained great hopes, but they found it conducted on so small and experimental a manner that its success on a commercial scale could not be predicted with any degree of certainty. It is now being tried on a much larger scale, and this and other systems of treating sulphides will be attentively watched by the board. At the meeting it will be proposed, out of the profit of £975 4s 3d to the credit of profit and loss, to pay to Mr. Woodhead the sum of £236 on account of his expenses in reorganising the company, leaving a balance of £200 to be dealt with on a future occasion.

The manager, in his report, referring to the question of sulphide ore, says :—Towards the close of the half-year a great deal of attention has been paid towards opening up our sulphide ores, and the work carried out so far has proved very encouraging indeed. In the far north the body of lead sulphides discovered on the 240ft. level has been found to carry down to the 270ft. level, from which point we are now opening out on the same again, and its grade has been maintained throughout. The drive from the winze in No. 1 west crosscut below the 200ft. level of Blackwood shaft is also opening up sulphide ore of very fair value. A winze is also being sunk in the long crosscut from western extension, where I am sure we will find fair sulphides as we get further down. Work is also being started on 300ft. level of Blackwood shaft (from which point no work of any description has been done so far), and a crosscut will be run out westwards from here in order to open up the sulphides on this level. The greater portion of our sulphide ores, in my opinion, will be found lying out west of our present workings, and the above works will be pushed out in this direction as speedily as possible to prove same. The Block 14 Company have lately discovered a good lode of splendid dressing sulphides, averaging about 24 per cent. lead, 17oz. or 18oz. silver, and 20 per cent. zinc, lying west of all their previously known ore bodies. This lode has been opened up at both the 200ft. and 300ft. levels, and found equally satisfactory.

### DIVIDENDS.

The following dividends have been declared payable on the respective dates named :—

Bulgandra Lone Hand G. M. Company.—December 31, 3d.

B. H. Block 14.—January 15, 1s.

The B. H. Proprietary Company, Limited.—January 15, 1s.

Broken Hill Water Supply.—January 17, 6d.

Broken Hill Junction Company.—January 18, 1s.

Brilliant G. M. Company, Charters Towers.—6d.

Victoria G. M. Company, Charters Towers.—January 7, 6d.

Glanmire No. 1 North.—December 30, 1s.

Phœnix Company, Gympie.—1s.

### CALLS.

The Stewart's Brook G. M. Company, N.L.—January 8, 3d.

Victory (Charters Towers) G. M. Company.—March 31, 6d.

### YIELDS.

GOLD.

The Great Boulder, Kalgoorlie (W.A.), 110 tons, 1100oz.

### MANAGERS' REPORTS.

The Eleanora G. and A. M. Company, No Liability, Hillgrove, fortnight ended December 19 :—The battery has been running continuously during the past fortnight, and has crushed 518 tons of ore, which yielded 222oz. of smelted gold, and produced 13 tons of calcined concentrates. The erection of additional vanners for the treatment of the old tailings is being pushed ahead as fast as possible, and the work inside the building will soon be completed, after which the tramway will be constructed, and the engine for hauling up the tailings put in position. Mine : The opening up of the lode at the south shaft is going on as rapidly as possible, and is looking very promising. Winzes are being sunk at the 110ft. level to make ready for stoping, and filling the same with mullock as may be required from time to time. Main shaft : Still driving north in No. 3 level, and stoping over the same in payable ore. Nothing fresh to comment on in other parts of the mine.

The Broken Hill Proprietary Block 14 Company, Limited, week ending December 18 :—300ft. level, No. 1 crosscut : North drive driven 5ft., total 194ft. ; face same as last reported. No. 2 crosscut : South drive extended 9ft., total 167ft. ; face shows a little more ore. North drive driven 8ft., total 99ft. ; no change in the face. Eastern lode : North drive driven 9ft., total 268ft. ; no change in the face. 200ft. level : No. 6 winze sunk 9ft., total depth from collar 14ft. ; in sulphide ore. Stoping on 200ft. and 300ft. levels has been continued, and ore supplied to the mill as required. 105 trucks, containing 62½ tons concentrates and slimes, despatched for the week.

## *A MORTAL CALLING.*

The rate of mortality among medical men is becoming seriously high. Dr. Kortright has made an analysis of the ages and causes of death of 450 medical men who had spent their professional lives in New York and its vicinity. These men, practising the healing and life-saving art upon others, only themselves reached an average of 54·6 years. Whereas among lawyers the mortality figures stood at 20·23, and among clergymen were so low as 15·93, it stood at 25·53 among the doctors. In short, according to Dr. Kortright's figures, doctors are the least long-lived of all classes except publicans, butchers, factory operatives, and quarrymen. An appalling fact to be added to these is that suicide is four times as common among doctors as among other full-grown men. The reasons for this state of things are well known to medical men, and chief among them all is the worrying and anxious nature of the profession. The worry and anxiety of the doctor, combined with his too often miserable remuneration, produce sleeplessness, brain weariness, mental incapacity, and too often a depression and anguish of mind which can hardly be paralleled in any other calling. And yet in this country, because the doctor is respected, innumerable young men rush in every year, many of whom are from the first foredoomed to failure, melancholy, and suicide, or other premature death. In the interests of the thousands who are entering the profession every year, responsible leaders should make known far and wide facts so full of significance to every member of the middle-class who can influence the choice of a profession by the inexperienced and the young.—*The Hospital.*

Miss Gertrude Lubbock, daughter of Sir John Lubbock, is the author of a manual, *Some Poor Law Relief Questions*, which unfortunately is not a little pertinent even here, though the legal and economic bearings of poor law relief are naturally so much more extensive in England. Sir John Lubbock, in his preface, says: "It seems impossible to repress the hope that the hard lot of the poor is becoming somewhat less intolerable." The publisher is Mr. Murray.

## RECENT RAT-LORE.

(*Spectator.*)

A juror, in a recent coroner's inquest held in the East End, complained that his attendance on the jury had cost him a sovereign. He explained that he was a ratcatcher in the Docks, and that a ship in which he had been employed to kill rats had sailed that morning before he was able to return and call for his money. He explained that, unlike the coroner, he was paid by the job, and that unless that official would give him one, he should be out of pocket to the extent he named. The coroner, who apparently resented the ratcatcher's references to the practice and emoluments of their respective professions, only offered him sympathy, and not much of that, to which the ratcatcher sarcastically replied, "Sympathy without help is like pudding without fat," and left the court, declaring that next time he should refuse to serve unless paid.

The amount of the ratcatcher's earnings incidentally threw a light on the number of rats which may be found on an outward-bound ship, even in these days of steel bulkheads and tinned provisions. At 2d per head, the usual price paid for rats killed, we gather that on this ship 120 were killed—enough to make the ship's company uncomfortable for the whole voyage, and to damage any perishable cargo. The responsibility would in this case lie with the shipowners. It is not long since an insurance company refused to pay damages claimed for a cargo of grain spoilt by water, which had run in from pipes gnawed by rats, alleging the negligence of the owners in not having them destroyed,—a contention in which they were partly supported by the Court.

The past summer saw a greater plague of rats in large towns than has been known for many years. The most striking instance of their numbers and boldness was shown in the case in which they attacked a family of children in Paisley during the great heat in the middle of September. The accounts which appeared in the papers at the time were somewhat exaggerated, but the following notes, communicated to the writer by the senior house-surgeon of the Paisley Infirmary, do not diminish the interest of the story :—"The family, named Weaver, lived in an old house, between which and a stable next door there was free communication. Near the house there was also a brewery. About 6.30 on the morning of 18th September Mrs. Weaver, hearing screams, got up, and found that her children—Patrick, 9 years old ; John, 4 years old ; and Michael, 2 years old—were being attacked by a swarm of rats. The mother had some difficulty in driving off the rats, which were large brown ones. Patrick was bitten on the arms, fingers, and nose ; John on both hands, the right being badly bitten ; and Michael on the cheek. The wounds were scratches and bites, the marks of teeth being in some places quite distinct, but none of the children were so badly hurt as to be detained in the infirmary. Except that in one case there was inflammation and swelling round the wounds, none of the children suffered any ill results."

There is not the least doubt that the rats intended to eat these children, and would have gnawed and mangled them to death just as they do fowls and rabbits, and if help had not been at hand to drive them off when the pain made the children scream, they would probably have succeeded in killing the baby. The most curious fact of the story is that they deferred their attack until after sunrise, and that they were not afraid of the elder boy. As all three children probably occupied one bed, the rats may have failed to distinguish the difference in size between the boy of 9 and the baby. In other respects the enterprise was conducted in the usual rat-fashion when a raid is made on living animals, those attacked being bitten on all the exposed parts, and treated rather as food ready to be eaten than live creatures which need artistic killing. Ferrets, which have more than once attacked sleeping children, act on the principle which all true carnivora practise, and endeavour to attack a vital part by biting the veins in the neck. The exploit of the Paisley rats coincides in time with a great increase in the number and boldness of Thames-side rats, which was noted after the long drought and heat of September. Good houses near the river, which had formerly been exempt from the pests, were found to be full of the vermin when their owners returned from their autumn holidays. Fresh holes were gnawed in doors and floors, and it was said that parties of rats were seen at night hopping down the water-side streets and disappearing through the gratings and down the areas. The "water-famine" in part accounted for this. The drains and large sewers in the higher parts of North London were so dry that the rats moved down towards the river, where the level of the sewers is lower, and food and water more abundant. A great fire which raged among the warehouses on the Surrey side of the river in the middle of August sent fresh recruits to the army of rats on the Middlesex shore. The bridges were crowded with sightseers, watching the line of wharfs burning, when the river was seen to be covered with rats swimming across, from the direction of the burning buildings. The number was estimated at many thousands, and one of the crew of a river fire-engine which was moored off the burning wharfs, states that the greater number of the rats entered the water almost at the same time, apparently struck by some common and simultaneous conviction that safety could only be found on the opposite side of the Thames. The rural rat, partly because it is in the main a clean-living "outdoor" beast, does not inspire the repugnance which everyone feels for the urban or "sewer" rat. Its cleverness, its courage, and the audacity and cunning with which it maintains its position in the midst of dangers which would daunt any other wild creature, gain for it a measure of that admiration which is part of the tribute paid to depraved greatness. In its character as an outdoor wild animal it has recently received compliments from such an accurate observer as Mr. A. Trevor Battye, while as a beast of the chase it is the subject of an admirable monograph—"Studies in Rat-catching," by Mr. H. C. Barkley. Mr. Barkley's book might, for minute detail and devotion to the sport, have a place in the "Badminton Series." He describes and accounts for "good" days and "bad" with dogs and ferrets in the hedgerows with a seriousness which would do credit to "Brooksby."

The reason for this business-like treatment is to be found in the age of the writer when he engaged in these pursuits. As a boy he had trained his dogs and ferrets so well that his services were in request as a competent and paid rat-catcher ; and the total of the day's earnings, at twopence per rat, is duly entered after the description of each day's sport. Old ladies, living in large country houses, used to send for him to devise means for ridding them of demon rats who baffled the regular practitioners, and the discoveries made in these visits are as curious as anything yet published in the history of household pests. In one case, a house was apparently perfectly free from rats, yet every night a rat came to the fowlhouse and carried off hen's eggs, or young ducks and chickens. Hedges, ditches, sheds, outhouses, and stables were examined with the aid of a trained dog, yet not a trace of a rat could be discovered. The dog was even made to run over the roofs of the buildings, in case the rats were lurking under the tiles. One afternoon Mr. Barkley requested that a dog, which was tied up in a kennel in a back yard, might be removed, as its barking disturbed his dogs when at work. As soon as the house-dog was removed one of Mr. Barkley's terriers "pointed" a rat, apparently under the kennel. No hole was visible, but the dog then entered the kennel, and "pointed" a hole made through the floor. The predatory rat was found beneath, and, as there was only one hole, it was evident that it must have passed and repassed the dog when asleep every night. In another house the dogs "pointed" a sofa in a bedroom,—a rat had eaten a hole through the sacking near one of the legs, and made a nest among the springs ; a ferret was put in ; "there was a rush and a scuffle, the sofa seemed alive ; then three or four small rats bolted out ; another squeak and rush, and out came the mother, and then, as the ferret did not come out, I ripped open the sacking, and found it eating a tender young rat." Church mice are common in the Eastern counties, which were the scene of Mr. Barkley's experiences ; they are alleged to live on the samples of wheat and barley which the farmers pull out of their pockets at vestry meetings, and drop on the floor and desk. But Mr. Barkley discovered, and in due course caught, a church rat. He was musing during the sermon, sitting on a bench opposite a score of village school children, when he was suddenly struck by the curious resemblance of expression—not in one, but in the whole row—to that of his own dogs when they found a rat. He was reproaching himself with dreaming, when he noticed that all the eyes were turned in one direction, and there he saw the cause,—a rat, just peeping out of a hole in the brick floor, and apparently listening to the sermon. It was duly caught next day. Mr. A. Trevor Battye has watched the rats transporting eggs on level ground. They rolled them in front of them with their chests ; but the means by which they carry them unbroken up and down stairs is not yet known. On the only occasion on which Mr. Battye saw them try to do this they broke the egg.

## *ENGLISH VEGETABLES.*

(*Daily News.*)

Such an exhibition of vegetables as that recently held at the Chiswick Gardens would greatly have astonished our forefathers of the middle ages. If it were possible to put side by side with this display of our vegetable resources of to-day a similar collection representing the best that could be produced 300 or 400 years ago, it would not only be very interesting and instructive as a mere matter of comparison, but it could hardly fail to give rise to curious speculations as to what "English" vegetables may expand into in the years to come. Very few persons, we imagine, have any idea how very limited are our native supplies, and to what a remarkable extent we are indebted to foreign countries for the ability to get together such a collection as was be on show at Chiswick. It is recorded that when Queen Catherine, soon after her marriage with Henry VIII., asked for a salad it could not be supplied. There was nothing to make it of, or at all events nothing satisfactory, and Northwich tells us that the King, whose conscience had not yet been disturbed by meeting with Miss Boleyn, sent post haste over to Holland to engage gardeners to come over and provide what his young Queen required. When vegetable food was thus scanty in Royal palaces, very little of it could have been found in cottages and middle-class dwellings, and though in the summer time the scanty produce of the cottage gardens was eked out by the use of hop-tops and nettles, or ground ivy, or dandelions, all through the dead of winter there was literally nothing to be had. The food of the entire population must have been dreadfully monotonous all through the winter in mediæval England, and it is not surprising therefore that towards the approach of spring it became the almost universal practice to take "spring physic." The idea that this is a right and necessary thing to do has still a strong hold in many of the remoter corners of the country, though there is no part of the kingdom where the winter diet of the people has not undergone great changes during the past few generations.

But before a wide intercourse with foreign countries had led to the introduction of new vegetable food, our home resources were scanty to a degree that is difficult to realise. We had, it is true, a very scrubby little cabbage or colewort indigenous here, and it was credited with all sorts of medicinal and other virtues. It was the subject of many learned dissertations, and was cultivated as carefully as the horticultural knowledge of mediæval times permitted, but it would certainly have cut a sorry figure beside the poorest of the cabbages shown at Chiswick. The probability is that none of the white-hearted monsters of the exhibition can claim indigenous connection with the soil of England. Gerard tells us that Måster Nicholas Lete, "a worshipful merchant of London," imported seeds of new kinds from Italy, Spain, and Germany, and these no doubt superseded our own coleworts, just as, in their turn, they have been distanced by later importations and by scientific propagation and cultivation. The potato, of course, it is well known, is not a native. Nobody can say exactly where it came from originally, but it was to Sir Walter Raleigh that we owe its introduction. In the gardens of some of the wealthy it began to be cultivated as a curiosity early in the seventeenth century, but long after this the poorer classes would have nothing to do with it, even where they could get the potato as an article of food. It was commonly believed to produce dysentery and leprosy, and it was only very gradually that the root came into general use. A prejudice equally strong was for a long time entertained against the kidney bean, which, apparently, we owe to the gardeners that Henry VIII. fetched from Holland when he was a doting young husband. The dwarf kidney bean came from the Netherlands about 1509, but the people got it into their heads that the colour of its blossoms was due to it being manured with blood, and for a long time would not eat the bean. The taller kind, the scarlet runner, did not reach this country for more than a hundred years later. We got it from South America in 1633. Both varieties were first grown in this country for the sake of their flowers only, and it was not till the eighteenth century that the young seed pods began to be generally eaten. No doubt they were introduced as an edible vegetable, but so strong was the popular prejudice that it took two centuries to wear it out and thus add another item to our stock of vegetables.

Carrots such as may, no doubt, be seen at the show to-day have a very poor relation, a native of this country. But it is as tough as a hemp rope, and hot and unpleasant in taste, and though attempts have been made to cultivate it into something more creditable to our soil, they have signally failed. It does not seem quite clear where our cultivated carrot comes from, though, as it was originally known as the Candia carrot, it seems probable that that island was where we found it. But carrots are very common in most parts of the world where soil is sandy, and it is likely that we are indebted to several foreign countries for better varieties than our own. Rhubarb is said to belong to China, and only became an article of diet in this country very slowly. It was not known at all in Europe till 1535. Asparagus is a native of Britain, and so are turnips. Gerard highly commends the small turnips that "are grown by a village near London, called Hackney." He says they are raised on "sandie" ground, "and brought to the Cross in Cheapside by the women of that village to be sold." They are the best, he says, that he ever tasted. A bunch of Gerard's turnips, grown in the sandy soil of the village of Hackney, would make an extremely interesting item for a modern vegetable show. We got radishes from China, as well as rhubarb. A writer of 1562, speaking of radishes, says: "There be no small store growing about the famous city of London. They be more plentifull than profytable, and more noysome than nourishing to manne's nature." We have a green pea that we can call our own—at least some authorities say so—though others question whether it was not originally a foreigner. It is certain, however, that our garden peas come from abroad, probably from Holland, and no doubt were among the other items of garden produce for which we are indebted to Henry VIII.'s connubial affection. They used to be always known as Fulham peas, because they were chiefly grown at Fulham, but in Elizabeth's time they appear to have been imported to some extent from Holland for the tables of the rich. Fuller says that they were "fitt dainties for ladies, they come so far and cost so dear." Parsnips, which are rarely seen on dinner tables nowadays, in towns at least, may be found wild, and perhaps should be considered an indigenous plant, though the cultivated varieties have certainly been imported. Indeed there is no single vegetable for which we are not indebted to other countries; and when we come to consider what a bewildering profusion we have now as compared with anything to be found on English tables only a few generations ago, and remember of how recent a date is the modern science of gardening, the possibilities of the future become very imposing. We have not now so extensive a world to ransack for new products as our forefathers had, but the world is still pretty big, and probably quite capable of yielding us a good many unknown delicacies in the vegetable way yet. And when we see by such shows as that of Chiswick what cultured skill has done, and consider that there is really not the slightest reason to suppose that it has come to the end of its pathway of progress, it seems by no means improbable that our achievements in this line may appear to future times almost as puny and unimportant as those of mediæval gardeners who were proud of their coleworts, which few cottagers would now think edible, and whose prize potatoes were not bigger than the walnuts that grew on their unimproved walnut trees.

One valuable and interesting book about Chitral has just been reviewed in these columns, so that less is necessary to be said about another similar work, *The Relief of Chitral*, by Captain G. J. and Captain F. E. Younghusband, the latter the distinguished frontier officer (Macmillan and Co.). But this volume is good and stimulating reading for such as have come by the opinion that England has forgotten how to make war. It was the opinion of no less an authority than Moltke that the Eastern wars of England were a school the value of which could not be despised. To read of the gallant defence of Chitral, or Colonel Kelly's remarkable march, is to be reminded of the best traditions of the British army. The authors append to the historic matter a chapter defending the retention of Chitral territory.

## QUAKER CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER.

(*Standard, November* 14.)

The high esteem in which the Society of Friends has been held in this country during certainly the last hundred years imparts to the conference which its members are at present holding at Manchester a special and peculiar interest. It may be doubted whether the Friends, or Quakers—as they are still colloquially known to most persons—have ever numbered more than two hundred thousand in this country, and we should not be surprised to hear that they are now less than a quarter of that figure on this side of the Atlantic. In the United States they are more numerous, though the tendency even there is in the downward direction. But they have always exercised an amount of political, religious, and social influence greatly in excess of their mere numerical strength, partly by reason of the singular worthiness of their lives, in some measure in consequence of their consistent and persistent philanthropy, and in no small degree, it should be added, because they are mostly well-to-do. It has often been remarked that you never see a very poor Quaker ; champions of the society adducing this circumstance as a proof that, thanks to their conscientious industry and the regularity of their lives, its members never throw themselves for support on the community, though adverse critics contend that the Quakers do not care to retain in their body anyone who is destitute or out at elbows. At the same time, very wealthy Friends are, perhaps, still less common than they used to be ; for it is affirmed, whether truthfully or not we will not undertake to say, that when a Quaker is very successful in the world, either he, or the next generation proceeding from him, silently passes over to the Church, discards the Quaker garb, bids adieu to Quaker restraints, and becomes part of the profane world. A kindred phenomenon is observable among certain Nonconformists, and we should probably be told, not without truth, that these eliminations of the worldly element from Quakerism only leave it all the more pure and true to its origin. It was quite proper that an eminent Nonconformist like Dr. M'Laren should have been present at the opening sitting of the conference ; and it must be allowed that he paid a tribute to the society as fervent as it was just. But the main interest of the meeting for the public consists in hearing Friends themselves addressing it, and in ascertaining to what extent the Quakerism of to-day agrees with and resembles historical and traditional Quakerism, and in what respect it differs and deviates from the stern discipline founded by Fox, and handed down by Penn and Barclay through a succession of Quaker publicists. In 1827 a very remarkable man, Elias Hicks, created a schism in the society in America by denying the cardinal dogmas of Christianity, and even questioning the specially Divine authority of the Scriptures, and founded a new sect of Friends, who bear his name, and are called Hicksites. We wonder Matthew Arnold never hit upon this nomenclature as a text for his amusing satire on the tendency of the Anglo-Saxon middle-class to found new, strange, and somewhat Philistine religions. Nor is this all, in the way of disruption, that has happened to the Society of Friends in the United States ; for one John Wilbur gave his name to a body of Quakers who are noted for their strict observance of the most straitlaced traditions and regulations of this grave community.

But it is not on account of their opinions that the members of the Society of Friends have hitherto been, and still are, an object of sincere interest to so many people outside their own borders. It has always been felt by the more serious, dispassionate, and logical minds that the Quakers have in their conduct displayed a more reverential and self-denying regard for the true spirit of Christianity than the bulk of professed Christians who content themselves mainly with lip homage. What the precise attitude of the Friends towards amusements at the present moment is we may hope to learn before the conference breaks up. But certainly in old days—and even in recent times—they objected to and denounced balls, gaming-places, horse-races, and theatres as "nurseries of debauchery and wickedness, the burden and grief of the sober part of other societies, as well as of our own." Equally repugnant to their traditions and customs are public concerts, sacred oratorios not excepted ; and no one will be surprised to be told that they have always condemned "the hurtful tendency of reading plays, romances, novels, and other pernicious books." If this was their opinion in the days of Richardson and "Clarissa Harlowe," and even in those of Sir Walter Scott and "The Heart of Midlothian," are they likely to have shifted their ground in the days of Zolaism and "Women who Did"? We gather, however, that Friends in modern times have become a little more lax and tolerant in regard to certain manifestations of the pagan and mundane spirit ; and we observe that Mr. Braithwaite, one of the London delegates at the conference, said that his co-religionists had until recent years repressed all taste for the fine arts, but that now they are beginning to recognise that these arts, at their best, "contain some revelation of the the spirit of God." This is toleration, indeed, that would have shocked George Fox and startled all his earlier successors ; and it is obvious that, if once Quakers begin to allow that poetry, painting, and music are not "devilish abominations," no one can tell where permission to indulge in these vanities will stop. Those pagan painters, and most of all those terrible poets, have a knack of revolutionising the austere minds that give them hospitality. Novels, indeed, scarcely belong to the fine arts, and we should be curious to know if Quakerism has made so large an advance in indulgence to the worldly spirit as to tolerate shilling shockers. We are bound to say that the prose romances of the period are much more calculated to drive a serious person into abjuring novel reading altogether than to induce him to extend the area of his light literature. Mr. Rowntree, another delegate, observed that the desire for a fuller and a happier life in these days was well nigh universal ; but it may be doubted whether the reading of books or the seeing of plays, which Quakerism would once have looked on with horror, does much just now to add either to the fulness or the happiness of existence.

Yesterday the conference debated at great length the question of Socialism, though we cannot say that the discussion was of a very practical character. But whatever decisions the society may arrive at in regard to subjects of this nature, there is no danger of its ever abandoning in the faintest degree its attitude towards slavery or war ; and it is in helping to abolish the first, and in labouring to banish the second, that it has achieved its greatest triumphs, done its most useful work, and acquired for itself the respect and gratitude of the world. Indeed, it would hardly be an exaggeration to say that Quakerism was, in its origin and in its earliest aims and utterances, an anticipation of the best social and spiritual ideas of the Christianity of to-day. Some persons would, perhaps, even suggest that, in allowing women to deliver themselves of Divinely-inspired messages in its meeting-houses as freely as men, Quakerism was the first religion to recognise the equality of the sexes which some people are at present so anxious to establish. Be this as it may, it is the goodness of Quakerism that has constituted its force ; the members of the Society of Friends unquestionably acting up to the ideal of Christianity more closely than any others among us. The Quakers, moreover, have been singularly unaggressive—in that particular hardly following the example of Fox or Penn. After watching sheep, like Giotto, but with a very different result, and then serving his time as a shoemaker, Fox became one of the most restless and combative spirits of his age. As for Penn, his militant conduct constantly compels us to remember that he was the son of an Admiral of the Fleet. Not only did he object to wearing a surplice when a student, but he attacked several fellow-students, and tore these hateful gawds off their backs. He refused to take off his hat to the King and the Duke of York, and even to his father, the Admiral. In fact, he was a fanatic of the first water. But he combined with his fanaticism and his mysticism, as many Quakers and several persons not Quakers have done—witness Laurence Oliphant in our own day—a shrewd, practical spirit, and a rare capacity for affairs. It is hardly likely that the Quakers will ever become more numerous. But we could ill spare them, and, therefore, let us hope they will at least be able to hold their ground in a shifting and unstable age.

*Phil May's Winter Annual* contains contributions, in verse and prose, by a number of prominent young literary men and women, but as usual the pictures of the admirable draughtsman who gives his name to the periodical are its chief attraction.

WILL FITWELL.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO OPEN MY NEW BOOT PALACE AT THE CORNER OF KING AND PITT STREETS UNTIL THE NEW YEAR, WHEN THE DUTIES COME OFF. THIS WILL ENABLE ME TO SELL YOU BOOTS AND SHOES AT LEAST TEN PER CENT LOWER THAN ANY OTHER HOUSE.

LET ME ADVISE YOU TO WAIT TILL THEN IF YOU CAN, AND IF YOU MUST PURCHASE BEFORE CALL AND SEE MY MAGNIFICENT STOCK AT 738 GEORGE-STREET, HAYMARKET, OR 438 GEORGE-STREET, OPPOSITE NEW MARKETS.

I THINK I MENTIONED BEFORE THAT MY NAME WAS

WILL FITWELL.

## *THE KING OF PORTUGAL IN ENGLAND.*

VISIT TO THE QUEEN AND THE PRINCE OF WALES.

(*Daily News, November* 7.)

Having visited the Emperor of Germany, King Charles I., otherwise Dom Carlos of Portugal, arrived in London yesterday, bent on seeing the Queen and the Prince of Wales, a programme supposed by some people to have reference to the English, German, and Portugal possessions in Africa. As far as the wind was concerned, the King had a roaring time on Tuesday. The Victoria and Albert, sent by the Queen to carry him from Flushing to Port Victoria on the Medway, rolled and pitched so violently that he intention of anchoring at the Nore and there passing the night had to be given up. The Royal yacht therefore steamed into the Medway, where she cast anchor soon after 10 o'clock. To have moored alongside the pier at Port Victoria would have been dangerous. Even in the river the gale was so strong all night that the ship rocked considerably. To judge by the King's fresh appearance yesterday morning he had not lost sleep. Wearing a dark blue uniform with a silver-plumed helmet, the costume of an officer in the Portuguese Navy, Dom Carlos, with his fair hair, whiskers, and moustache, fresh complexion, mild expression, and slight tendency to stoutness, looks more like a German than a native of the Peninsula. Orders to do him every possible honour had been sent to Sheerness. Accordingly, when it was clear that he had left his berth yesterday morning the warships in harbour dressed from stem to stern with bunting, among which was the Portuguese flag, fired salutes of 21 guns. Vice-Admiral Richard Wells, commander-in-chief at the Nore ; General Sir C. Warren, commanding the Thames district ; and other officers went on board the Victoria and Albert to welcome the King in the name of Queen Victoria. He received them cordially, talking with them for several minutes. Just before 9 o'clock, the yacht having been made fast to the pier, which was decorated for the occasion, he landed and found a guard of honour from the 1st Royal Scots and a special train. He had thanked Rear-Admiral Fullerton, commander of the yacht, for his care since leaving Flushing, and now his courtesy prompted him to inspect the Royal Scots, whose band had played the Portuguese National Anthem while he stepped ashore. As he departed in the special train another Royal salute was fired, not by the ships only, but by the forts on shore also. The train was in personal charge of Sir Myles Fenton, general manager of the South-eastern Railway, and in every respect the arrangements were similar to those for a member of our own Royal Family. It bore not only the King's suite and Senhor D'Antas, the newly-appointed Portuguese Minister to England, but the Earl of Clarendon, lord-in-waiting, and Colonel W. Carington, both of whom by the Queen's command had met the King at Flushing.

Punctually at the appointed time, 10 o'clock, the special train ran into Charing Cross Station. The weather, as if to make amends for that of the previous night, was dry, mild, and sometimes bright. On the platform, waiting to welcome the Royal visitor, were the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, in the uniform of a British Admiral, but with a Portuguese decoration ; General Lord Methuen, commanding the Home District ; General Sir H. Ewart, representing the Master of the Horse ; Senhor Machado, First Secretary to the Portuguese Legation ; Senhor Pinto Basto, Consul-General ; Viscount de Torre Bella, Baron de Costa Rici, Senhor Batalha Reis, Senhor Pinto Leito, Senhor Perestrello, Senhor Freitas Branco, and other gentlemen. Under the superintendence of the stationmaster (Mr. Abbott) the platform had been covered with a crimson carpet and protected by a barrier over which an eager crowd craned their necks to see what was going on within the privileged enclosure. Spectators were not allowed in the yard. They were required to be either in the station or without the gates. There were many in both positions. They did not cheer loudly ; such demonstrations are not seen at railway stations, except when great men make speeches there ; but some cheered when the King passed, others raised their hats, and were evidently friendly towards the king of a country which used to be our ally. Although spectators were excluded from the station yard it was fully occupied, being held by a field officer's escort of the 1st Life Guards. The brilliant spectacle was almost equalled on the roadway alongside the crimson-carpeted platform, where four emblasoned carriages from the Royal mews, with postilions and outriders in the Queen's livery, were drawn up. Alighting briskly from the train King Charles shook hands heartily with the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and others of the party gathered to receive him. The two Royal persons then seated themselves in the rear carriage, their suites and the Queen's representatives taking the others. Thus arranged, and accompanied by the Life Guards, they drove along Pall Mall to Buckingham Palace, where a crowd cheered and a detachment of Coldstreams saluted. The King spent four hours at Buckingham Palace, where the Earl of Lathom, Lord Chamberlain, and other officers of the Household received him and the Prime Minister called upon him. Leaving at a quarter-past 2, and finding a fresh crowd of 400 or 500 persons waiting round the gates to see him, he favoured them with several bows. This time he was in civilian dress. The escort of Life Guards was much smaller than the one which met him at Charing Cross. The carriages were two instead of four. They were plainer, but there were still postilions and scarlet-coated outriders. Going smartly along the Mall, by St. James's Palace, St. James-street, Albemarle-street, Bond-street, and Oxford-street, the *cortège* soon reached St. Pancras station, where the King and his followers, including Colonel Carington, Admiral Pinha, Count d'Arnaso, and Lieutenant Pinto Basto, were received by Lord Claud Hamilton, chairman of the Great Eastern Railway Company ; Mr. W. Birt, general manager ; Mr. J. H. Nettleship, superintendent ; and Mr. J. Elliott, stationmaster. The entrance of the carriages and escort into the station caused a rush of sightseers, who, however, were easily kept off the platform by a barricade of seats. A couple of special coaches, one a saloon, had been attached to the 2.35 train. Taking possession of these, the King and his party started for Wolferton, the nearest station to Sandringham. He will stay with the Prince of Wales till Friday, leaving then on his journey to the Queen. From Saturday to Monday he will be at Balmoral. He will rush back to London, arrive on Tuesday morning, pay a State visit to the City in the afternoon, and start for Lisbon on the following day. The programme proves what his appearance indicates—that his constitution is strong. Mayors of many towns and manufacturers of many things in the United Kingdom have sent invitations for the King to the Portuguese Legation, but Dom Carlos could not have accepted if he would, for a general election is at hand in his own country, and "all the folks would stare" if he were absent.

The Sandringham correspondent of the *Daily News* states that the Royal party arrived at Sandringham shortly after 6 o'clock. His Majesty and suite travelled via Bishop's Stortford, Cambridge, Ely, and King's Lynn, to Wolferton, the station nearest Sandringham House. His Majesty was met at Wolferton by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, in attendance upon whom were the Duke of Portland (Master of the Horse), Major-General Ellis, and Sir Charles Cust. Their Royal Highnesses heartily welcomed his Majesty on his alighting. At Sandringham House his Majesty was received by the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of York, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, and the guests of their Royal Highnesses invited by the Prince and Princess of Wales to meet his Majesty, amongst whom were Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Duchess of Portland, the Earl of Rosebery, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the Marchioness of Lansdowne. There were also present Miss Knollys, General Sir Dighton Probyn, General Sir Francis de Winton, Lady Mary Lygon, Sir Francis Knollys, &c.

## *HOW FEMALE PRISONERS FARE IN AUSTRIA.*

In *Cornhill* for November is a curious and interesting paper on "A Convent Prison" at Neudorf, a few miles from Vienna. The following are a few extracts :—

In Austria a woman, no matter what she may do, is never regarded or treated quite as a criminal. She may rob, burn, kill—set every law at defiance, in fact, and break all the commandments in turn—without a fear of ever being called upon to face a gallows. She is not even sent to an ordinary prison to do penance for her sins ; the hardest fate that can befall her, indeed, is to be compelled to take up her abode for a time in a convent. There the treatment meted out to her is not so much justice seasoned with mercy, as mercy seasoned, and none too well, with justice. Even in official reports she is an "erring sister"—one who has, it is true, strayed from the narrow path, but quite involuntarily. The convent to which Vienna sends its erring sisters is at Neudorf, only a few miles away from the city. There any woman who is convicted of either crime or misdemeanour is at once transported. The Judge before whom she is tried decides, of course, how long she shall remain. He may, too, if he deems it right, give orders that while there she shall pass a day in solitary confinement from time to time, and, on these occasions be less plentifully supplied with food than usual. In the great majority of cases, however, no instructions of this kind are given ; the women are simply handed over to the keeping of the Superior of the convent, to be dealt with as she thinks best. She houses them, feeds them, clothes them, and provides them with instruction and occupation ; and the Government gives her for what she does 35 kreuzers a day (about sevenpence) for each prisoner under her care. So long as these women are in the convent the full responsibility for their safe keeping and general well-being rests on the Superior ; and, in return, she is allowed practically a free hand in her management of them. There are, it is true, certain regulations in force with regard to the amount of work they may be required to do, and the punishments that may be inflicted on them ; but these are not of a nature to interfere seriously with her freedom of action. She is, in fact, virtually an autocrat within her own domain ; and there are not half-a-dozen women in Europe to-day who have so much power for the weal or woe of their fellows as she has . . . It would be hard to find a more prosperous-looking set of women than these convent prisoners : to see them one would never dream that they were supposed to be undergoing punishment. They are perfect models of cleanliness and order, their hair is carefully dressed, their cotton gowns are quite spotless, and so are the bright-coloured fichus they all wear. Physically, they seem to be just about up to the average ; but intellectually, so far as an outsider can judge, they are considerably either above or below the great mass of their fellows. Some of the faces are almost idiotic in their stupidity ; others are quite startlingly clever—keen, sharp, and sagacious. Although a few of the prisoners looked depressed or sullen, the great majority seemed not only contented but happy, happier by far than half the working women one comes across in the outside world. There was a touch of something quite pathetic in the expression of more than one who was there : it was as if they had at length found rest and peace after much more tossing, and were grateful. . . . They all seemed to take great pride in their work ; one woman stroked an exquisite piece of lace she was making as if she positively loved it. These women were all so kindly in their ways, so peaceful and good-humoured, they differed so completely from our preconceived ideas of criminals, that we were puzzled to imagine what could have brought them into prison. We had never a doubt but that their offences were of the most trivial nature, and we said so. The Superior gave us one of her odd, humorous smiles. "Did you notice that woman in the corridor?" she asked. "She is Marie Schneider" . . . a European celebrity, with more murders on her conscience than she has fingers on her hands! . . . Nor is she, as we soon found, the only notoriety in the place. One of the prisoners is a delicate-looking girl with large brown eyes and golden hair—a type of beauty almost peculiar to Austrians. She has a low, cooing voice, and a singularly sweet, innocent expression. "What on earth can that girl have done to be sent here?" I whispered. "Done," the inspector replied, grimly, "set a house on fire in the hope of killing a man with his wife and five children." The girl must have had extraordinary sharp ears ; for, although we were standing at some distance away, she heard what he said, and she gave him a glance such as I hope never to see again in my life. It was absolutely diabolic ; had there been a knife within reach the man would have died on the spot. Yet only a moment before she had been looking up into my face with a smile an angel might have envied. Several of the prisoners are in the convent for killing their own children ; some for killing, or trying to kill, their husbands ; others for stealing or embezzling ; others, again, for no more serious crime than begging. There are all degrees of guilt there, in fact, and all ages, from girls of 16 to women of nearly 80. And they all live together on terms of perfect equality ; for there are no distinctions of rank there—no one is better or worse than her neighbour. When the convent door closes behind them they have done, for the time being, not only with the outside world, but with their own past. . . . There is much in this convent prison, it must be confessed, that jars upon our English sense of what is right and seemly ; we had a sort of feeling while there that many of these women were not being severely enough dealt with ; that they were not rendering tooth for tooth, eye for eye, in the proper orthodox fashion. Much righteous indignation was engendered by the spectacle of criminals—murderesses, even, and incendiaries—being so well fed and treated so kindly. Then the general clubbing together of all ages and all degrees of guilt, that is the order of the day there, is contrary to all our ideas of justice. The place is organised on a radically wrong system, in fact ; and, should any of our prison reformers ever pay it a visit, they will, without doubt, thenceforth hold it up as a perfect model of what such an institution should not be. Still—these things are beyond all comprehension—it cannot be denied that they who are sent to Neudorf are, as a rule, better women—more moral, more humane, and more industrious—when they leave than when they enter. Of our own prisons it has been said, with scant justice, perhaps, that, if perchance an honest man goes in, he is a rogue when he comes out.

Mr. W. Dymock sends us the fourth edition brought up to 1895 of Mr. Eissler's treatise on *The Metallurgy of Gold* (Crosby Lockwood and Son). In this manual the most modern developments of gold winning and saving are fully dealt with. Mr. Harry P. Woodward's *Mining Handbook to the Colony of Western Australia*, published by the Government Printer, Perth, reaches us in a second edition, testifying to the appreciation of the work by the public now so much interested in the colony.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page1366037

## Funerals.

THE FRIENDS of Miss M. A. GODDARD are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of her late beloved MOTHER, Eliza Goddard; to move from her late residence, Namoi Cottage, Holterman-street, North Sydney, THIS (Thursday) MORNING, at 10 o'clock, for Gore Hill Cemetery. WOOD and COMPANY, Undertakers.

THE FRIENDS of Messrs. H. G., J., and W. R. GODDARD are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their late MOTHER, Eliza Goddard; to move from her late residence, Namoi Cottage, Holterman-street, North Sydney, THIS (Thursday) MORNING, at 10 o'clock, for Gore Hill Cemetery. WOOD and COMPANY, Underts.

THE FRIENDS of the late Mrs. SARAH ANN FRANKLIN are kindly invited to attend her Funeral; to move from her late residence, Lymerstone-street, St. Peters, THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON, at quarter to 2 o'clock, for Newtown station, thence to Necropolis. BOOTS and GOMMESON, Undertakers, Newtown, &c.

FRIENDS are informed that the Funeral of the late Captain WEISS will leave Leona, Merton-street, Stanmore, FRIDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

WOOD and COMPANY, Funeral Directors and Embalmers, 157 King-street and 790 George-street, Sydney. Branches at Balmain (N. and S.), Petersham, North Sydney, Leichhardt, and Pyrmont. Telephones 692 and 726, &c., &c.

HENRY HART and SONS, Undertakers and Embalmers, 186 Devonshire-st., Surry Hills, Sydney, and at Ashfield and Burwood, at railway stations. Telephone, city, No. 1003; Ashfield, No. 6.

## Medical. Chemicals. &c.

WASHINGTON H. SOUL and CO., PATENT MEDICINE and DRUG IMPORTERS, 158, 160, 162 PITT-STREET, seven doors from King-street, and 268 Pitt-street, four doors from Park-street. Druggists (by Diploma) to Lord Carrington.

WHOLESALE and RETAIL.

Clayton's Crimson Fluid, 1s; Chloride of Lime in bottles, 1s; Jeyes', 6d, 1s, and upwards; Mason's, 1s; Permanganate of Potass, 6d oz.—one tablespoonful makes one gallon of good disinfectant.

ASIATIC LINIMENT.—A certain Cure for Lumbago, Sciatica, and all Rheumatic troubles. Two shillings per bottle.

A SEA BATH AT HOME.—This luxury for the healthy or strengthener for children or invalids is within reach of all. Clayton's large Box of Sea Salt, only 2s 3d.

PILLS FOR FEMALES.—Dr. Conquest's, 2s by post; Dr. Warner's Steel and Pennyroyal, 1s 6d by post; Dr. Westcott's, 2s 9d and 4s 6d; Widow Welch's (Kearsley's), 2s 9d, by post 2s 11d.

A WEEK'S WASHING well done in two hours, that is before breakfast. No rubbing the clothes to pieces, no injury to the hands, and with less than one quarter the labour formerly required, by using Soul's Washing Solution, 1s bottle. Sold by grocers.

DR. WARNER'S rapid cure for complaints of the urinary organs, whether discharges or otherwise. For both sexes. Complete in one box. Price 6s. Post free.

CORNS CURED in a FEW DAYS WITHOUT PAIN by Dr. Jones's (original) Magic Corn Paint. Price 1s by post.

LUBIN'S GLYCERINE and CUCUMBER, 6d, by post 8d. (The original.) For softening the skin and curing chapped hands, making the skin white and delicate.

Page's Custard Powder makes fine Custards, Puddings, &c., without eggs. Price 6d and 1s. Sold by grocers.

Also many other goods to be found in list.

Send for Price List and Save Money.

## Auction Sales.

IN THE ASSIGNED ESTATE OF D. W. WEBB, Produce Merchant, Corner Norton and Short streets, Leichhardt.

JOHN BRIDGE and CO. will sell by auction, on the Premises, on FRIDAY Next, the 27th instant, Stock of general produce, also 3 horses, 1 trolly, and 2 spring drays, 1 sulky, 3 sets harness, 2 chaff-bagging machines, 2 chaffcutters, 1 corn cracker and cleaner, and 1 oatcrusher.

Terms, Cash. No Reserve.

FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER, 1895, at 11.30 a.m.

In the Assigned Estate of SYMONDS and EVERETT, trading as THE CITY PRODUCE COMPANY.

GEORGE WELLS has received instructions from the Trustees to sell by public auction, on the premises, 623 George-street, Haymarket, on FRIDAY, 27th instant, A quantity of tea, cornsacks, peas, and sundries.

TERMS, CASH.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, at 11 a.m.

IMPORTANT AUCTIONEERS' ANNOUNCEMENT to LADIES AND GENTLEMEN Furnishing in good taste, VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY, and the General Public.

GREAT UNRESERVED SALE BY AUCTION, at the OLD BANK AUCTION ROOMS, 322 GEORGE-STREET, between G.P.O. and Hunter-street, of the CONTENTS of SEVERAL WELL-FURNISHED SUBURBAN and CITY RESIDENCES, for ABSOLUTE UNRESERVED SALE, to close up THE OLD YEAR'S ACCOUNTS, and to ENABLE VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY to replenish their homes.

Amongst these GRAND HOUSEHOLD APPOINTMENTS will be found LARGE and HANDSOME ENGLISH CHINA DINNER SERVICE, BREAKFAST, TEA, and COFFEE SETS, Elegant Dessert Sets, SUPERIOR SHEFFIELD ELECTROPLATE, in splendid order, BEST QUALITY BRUSSELS CARPETS and Hearth Rugs.

SEVERAL VALUABLE OIL and WATER-COLOUR PAINTINGS, of great merit
EBONISED COTTAGE UPRIGHT PIANOFORTE, in first-class order, by the well-known English makers, John Brinsmead and Sons
ELEGANT and MOST ARTISTIC DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE, in various designs, and upholstered in best quality Silk and Plush
HIGH-ART SOLID WALNUT CHIPPENDALE CABINET, with enclosed cupboard and bevelled plate-glass
SOLID CARVED WALNUT ARTISTIC OVERMANTELS, of various sizes, and with bevelled plates
MAGNIFICENT ASSORTMENT of DINING-ROOM and Library FURNITURE, in Oak and Walnut
HANDSOME CARVED WALNUT ENCLOSED SIDEBOARDS, running from 4ft. to 6ft., of the very latest style, with bevelled plate-glass backs
EXTENSION DINING TABLES, PATENT SCREWS and extra leaves
SEVERAL WELL-MADE DINING-ROOM SUITES, buttoned and plain seated, covered in best Morocco and Roanskins
ENCLOSED EARLY ENGLISH DINNER WAGGONS, with bevelled plates
WALNUT and OAK HALL STANDS, with Chairs to match
BEDROOM FURNITURE, in GREAT VARIETY, consisting of Ash, Walnut, and Pine; Single and Double Bedroom Suites
BEST QUALITY BRASS-MOUNTED BEDSTEADS and Bedding complete
COMFORTABLE EUGENE BEDROOM LOUNGES, covered in figured Cretonne
SINGLE GENTLEMAN'S WARDROBES, in Ash, Walnut, and Pine
PAIRS of WELL-MADE TOILETS
Double and Single China Toilet Sets
SUPERIOR BEDROOM CARPET SQUARES, of various sizes and patterns
ENCLOSED CEDAR and WALNUT BOOKCASES
Writing Desks and Pigeonholes
CHOICE ASSORTMENT SITTING-ROOM FURNITURE of the most artistic designs in Fumigated Bamboo and Bleached Cane, plush seats
SEVERAL SWEET-TONED COTTAGE PIANOFORTES, in good order, suitable for the country
GAS STOVES and PATENT MANGLES
Garden Seats and Lawn Mowers, and a
LARGE and VARIED ASSORTMENT of EXCELLENT HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, too numerous to particularise.

WALTER BRADLEY and CO. beg to inform ladies and gentlemen furnishing, visitors from the country, that they will conduct the above most important unreserved sale by auction, at THE OLD BANK AUCTION ROOMS, 322 GEORGE-STREET, on FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER, at 11 a.m. TERMS, CASH.

Purchasers can rely on their goods being packed and despatched in a competent manner, and at a moderate charge.

FIFTEEN SHILLINGS per foot is the upset price of the HAMPDEN ESTATE, Croydon, adjoining the Western Suburbs Cottage Hospital. Sale next SATURDAY. ERNEST BROUGHTON, 230 Pitt-street, Auct.

## Horses and Vehicles.

SIMPSON, COACHBUILDER, NEWTOWN. Cash only. Tel., 40N.

FOR SALE, a Gentleman's VEHICLE, known as a private 'bus, can be used in wet or fine weather, made by Peters, of London. The appliances allow to be altered from 'bus to break, will seat eight inside and two out, is in perfect condition and nearly new. For full particulars apply Mr. T. R. DAVIS, Herald Office.

SORE BACKS CURED BY CONDY'S FLUID.—Horses suffering from sore shoulders, sore backs, broken knees, wounds, bruises, &c., cured in a few hours by bathing the parts affected with diluted Condy's Fluid. Use a tablespoonful to a pint of water. Caution.—Insist on having Condy's Fluid. Beware of imitations. Veterinary book with every bottle containing instructions for curing all Diseases of Horses, Sheep, Cattle, &c. Sold by all chemists. Manufactured only at Condy's Fluid Works, London, England.

TO COUNTRY VISITORS Coming to Sydney at Xmas.—Visit our Establishment, and they will see a Real First-class Selection of Vehicles and Harness, new and second-hand, at Dull-time Prices. We defy competition. Our Lord Hampden Champion 3-spring SULKY, horse or pony, varnished or painted, also best Silver-plated Harness to match, English style, £15 15s. Lot delivered to train or steamer. We defy anyone in the city to compete at our price in this particular line. Send for illustration and particulars at once. Call on us. E. M'CARTY and CO., Horse and Buggy Bazaar, 150 Castlereagh-street, city.

PONY PHAETONS, from £25, the best and neatest in the market. Kearey Bros., 252 Pitt-st.

LOW double and convertible seat PHAETONS, from £36. Kearey Bros., 252 Pitt-st.

WHAT splendid Soap the MAGIC CLEANSER is! Removes dirt, and makes the clothes white as snow.

## Municipal Elections.

BISHOPTHORPE WARD, GLEBE.—STANLEY L. COLE will Address the Ratepayers Wallace's Hotel, Glebe-road, FRIDAY, 27th, 8 p.m. Hon. Alexander Kethel, M.L.C., chairman. W. MILLER, Hon. Sec.

## Government Railways.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, 1895.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued from all Stations to all Stations (except for distances not exceeding 15 miles between stations on the Sydney and Newcastle Suburban Sections), by all trains until WEDNESDAY, 1st January, 1896, both days inclusive, available for return until FRIDAY, 31st January, 1896.

THROUGH CHEAP EXCURSION TICKETS will also be issued to Melbourne, Adelaide, Broken Hill, and Brisbane.

BOXING DAY, DECEMBER 26.

Cheap Excursion Tickets at 2d per mile first class (return), minimum 5s, and 1d per mile second class (return), minimum 2s 6d, will be issued at Sydney and Suburban stations to the country by trains leaving Sydney as under:—

Available for return by any train (Melbourne Express excepted) up to MONDAY, 6th January, 1896, inclusive.

7.38 a.m. for Nowra.
7.55 a.m. for Goulburn.
8 a.m for Eskbank.
8.15 a.m. for Newcastle (7.45 a.m. from Milson's Point).

TICKETS AT SPECIALLY LOW FARES WILL ALSO BE ISSUED FROM SYDNEY AND ILLAWARRA SUBURBAN STATIONS TO NATIONAL PARK.

FIRST-CLASS, RETURN ... ... 1s 6d
SECOND-CLASS, RETURN ... ... 1s 0d

In addition to the ordinary service, Special Trains will run from Sydney as follows:—

SOUTH COAST LINE.

7.38 a.m. and 7.30 p.m., for Nowra; 9.30 a.m., for Kiama; 11.38 p.m., for Sutherland.

SOUTHERN LINE.

7.55 a.m., for Goulburn.

NORTHERN LINE.

8.15 a.m., for Newcastle; 9.10 a.m., for Hawkesbury; 9.20 a.m., for Hawkesbury and Gosford.

WESTERN LINE.

8 a.m., for Eskbank; 1.30 p.m. and 11.35 p.m. for Mount Victoria.

A Special Service of Trains will be run from Sydney at frequent intervals to Rockdale (Lady Robinson's Beach), Kogarah (Sans Souci and Sandringham), Como, Sutherland, and National Park.

An Improved Service of Trains will also be run on the Richmond, Milson's Point, and Belmore Lines.

HAWKESBURY RIVER TRIPS.

SATURDAY, 28th, and SUNDAY, 29th DECEMBER, and NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1st JANUARY.

Excursion trains will leave Sydney and Milson's Point for the Hawkesbury as follows:—

On SATURDAY.
Sydney—Depart, 9 a.m.
Milson's Point—Depart, 8.45 a.m.
On SUNDAY.
Sydney—Depart, 9.32 a.m.
On WEDNESDAY, January 1st.—
Sydney—Depart, 9.10 a.m. and 9.20 a.m.
Milson's Point—At 9.30 a.m.

On arrival at Hawkesbury River Excursionists will embark on the s.s. General Gordon, and will be taken for a trip down the river.

70 miles by rail and 36 by steamer.

CHEAP RETURN FARES (including trip on steamer): FIRST-CLASS, 5s 6d; SECOND-CLASS, 3s 6d. Seventy miles by rail and 36 by steamer.

SYDNEY AND COWAN CREEK TRIP.

CONVENIENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR FISHING PARTIES.

MONDAY, 30th DECEMBER.

Excursionists can leave Sydney by the 9 a.m. and Milson's Point by the 8.45 a.m. trains.

On arrival at Hawkesbury the S.S. General Gordon will take passengers for a most enjoyable trip down the stream. Entering Cowan Creek, the steamer will anchor at the favourite fishing grounds. On return journey train leaves Hawkesbury at 5.55 p.m., reaching Sydney 7.15 p.m.

CHEAP RETURN FARES (including trip on Steamer): FIRST-CLASS, 5s 6d; SECOND-CLASS, 3s 6d.

ALTERED RUNNING OF TRAINS.

MAIN SUBURBAN LINE.

The following Trains WILL NOT RUN:—

The 5.35 and 6.35 a.m., Sydney to Homebush; the 5.25, 7.15, and 8.10 a.m., Homebush to Sydney; the 7.18 a.m., Ashfield to Sydney; the 9.28 a.m., Funeral, Sydney to Rookwood Cemetery; the 11 a.m., Funeral, Rookwood Cemetery to Sydney.

SPECIAL RELIEF TRAINS will leave Ashfield for Sydney at 9.45, 10.13, and 10.50 a.m., and Homebush for Sydney at 5.42 p.m., calling at all stations.

A SPECIAL RELIEF TRAIN will also leave Parramatta for Sydney at 10.20 a.m., calling at Granville, Auburn, Rookwood, Homebush, and Strathfield, and be due to reach Sydney at 10.56 a.m.

The 8 a.m. train, Parramatta to Sydney, will also call at Strathfield at 8.22 a.m.

After 4 p.m. the Main Suburban Service will be the same as on Saturdays, with the following exceptions:—The 5 p.m. train, Parramatta to Sydney, will call at all stations Parramatta to Ashfield inclusive (except Flemington) reaching Sydney at 5.46 p.m. The 7.20 p.m. train, Homebush to Sydney, will call at all stations.

ILLAWARRA SUBURBAN LINE.

The following trains WILL NOT RUN:—

7.40 a.m., Sydney to Hurstville; 5.52 a.m., Como to Hurstville.

5.25, 6.45, and 7.18 a.m., Hurstville to Sydney.

5.37 p.m., Sydney to Kogarah; but the 5.35 p.m. train, Sydney to Como, will call at all stations.

CLOSING OF GOODS SHEDS AND CENTRAL BOOKING OFFICE.

The GOODS SHED at REDFERN and ALEXANDRIA will be CLOSED. DARLING HARBOUR GOODS SHED will be open until 10 a.m. for the delivery of perishable traffic. The CENTRAL BOOKING OFFICE will be OPEN until 10 a.m. for the Sale of Tickets and delivery of perishable parcels only.

The Goods Sheds at other Stations will be Closed except for the receipt and delivery of perishable traffic.

Further particulars can be obtained from all stationmasters.

By order of the Commissioners. H. M'LACHLAN, Secretary.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT TRAMWAYS

BOXING DAY (26th DECEMBER) TRAMWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

Special trams will be run on all lines and at frequent intervals from Bent-street to Coogee Aquarium Bondi Aquarium, and Bondi Beach. The Saturday service will be in operation on the following lines:—

Abbotsford, Balmain, Enfield, North Shore Cable and Electric.

RANDWICK RACES.

Special Trams will leave Bent-street for the Racecourse Platform at frequent intervals via Oxford-street, commencing at 10.40 a.m., and from the Railway Steps, Devonshire-street, via Cleveland-street commencing at 11.40 a.m.

A First-class Special (fare 2s 6d return) will leave Bridge-street at 11.30 a.m.

Return Tickets at 1s 6d each may be obtained at the following ticket offices:—Bent-street, Hunter-street, King-street, Park-street, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool-street, Railway Tram Ticket Office, and Central Booking Office, George-street. The Single Fare by ordinary Tram Tickets, or by Cash, will be 1s.

Ordinary Trams from Randwick will stop at the Racecourse and Kensington Platforms up to 3 p.m., BUT NOT BETWEEN 3.50 and 5.30 p.m. Ordinary Trams from Bent-street WILL NOT STOP at the Racecourse or Kensington Platforms BETWEEN 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' DEMONSTRATION AT AGRICULTURAL GROUND.

Special Trams will leave Bent-street for the Agricultural Ground, via Oxford-street, at frequent intervals, commencing at 9.34 a.m., and from the Railway steps, Devonshire-street, via Cleveland-street, at frequent intervals, commencing at 10.9 a.m., returning from the Ground frequently throughout the day.

Fare, threepence each way.

OCEAN-STREET CABLE TRAMWAY.

During the holidays the Cable Cars will run at frequent intervals and later than usual, as shown below:—

| | | From Ocean-street to King-street. | From King-street to Ocean-street. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 26th Dec'ber | First Tram | 7.50 a.m. | 8.15 a.m. |
| 1st January | Last Tram | 11.35 p.m. | 12. Midnight |
| 28th Dec'ber | First Tram | 8.50 a.m. | 9.15 a.m. |
| | Last Tram | 10.47 p.m. | 11.11 p.m. |
| 31st Dec'ber | First Tram | 7.50 a.m. | 8.15 a.m. |
| | Last Tram 12.5 (1st January). | a.m. | 12.30 a.m. (1st Jan.) |

By order of the Commissioners, H. M'LACHLAN, Secretary.

24th December, 1895.

## For Sale.

DIAMOND RINGS, Jewellery, and Watches in endless variety and value. We sell our own unredeemed pledges at one-third of original cost. Bargains not to be equalled. Don't miss this chance. Come early. AUSTRALIAN MONT DE PIETE, 21 Regent-street, corner James-street, Redfern.

TO COUNTRY NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS and JOB PRINTERS.—For SALE, cheap, a quantity of Second-hand TYPE—Minion and Nonpareil—(in good condition), in case. Apply to W. SEMPLE, S. M. Herald Office.

TICKETS.—Excursion, Melbourne, Adelaide Brisbane, Maryborough, Hobart, Albury, Bourke, Goulburn, Tenterfield, New Zealand; London (steerage), £13; others, all parts, cheap. DAVIS, 108 Pitt-street, op. G.P.O.

TICKETS.—Melbourne, Brisbane, 8s; Launceston, 20s; Hobart, 20s; Maryborough, Fremantle, Glen Innes, Bourke; London, £13; Wagga, Goulburn, Tenterfield, Armidale, Toowoomba. FIRKINS, 135 King-street.

SEWING MACHINES, new or second-hand, cheap, from 20s; repairs. S. Rowley, 8 Royal Arcade.

DANCE, SPORT, and PLAY, BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

## Amusements.

HER MAJESTY'S.

Sole Lessees ... ... ... Messrs. Woods and Marshall.
Manager ... ... ... Mr. Alfred Woods.

SUCCESS. SUCCESS. SUCCESS.
A Merry Christmas and a Bright New Year.
GRAND CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME
(The only one this year).

On Tuesday evening the House was packed from floor to ceiling to witness the first production of the Grand, Mammoth, and Original Dramatical, Pantomimical, Nonsensical, Nautical, Pastoral, Oriental, Comical, Cannibal, Up-to-date Burlesque of Defoe's Mythical, Historical Story,

ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE,

written expressly for this Theatre by BERT ROYLE.

THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON, at 2 (Special Holiday Matinee), and TO-NIGHT, at 7.45,

and every evening until further notice. With Special Holiday Matinees. (See advertisement below.)

THE ENORMOUSLY SUCCESSFUL PANTOMIME,

ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE,

interpreted by a GREAT PANTOMIME COMPANY of unrivalled Comedians and Popular Favourites, including the First Appearance in Pantomime in this city of the Beautiful and Celebrated English Burlesque Actress, Miss

MARIE LUELLA
MARIE LUELLA,

who scored an artistic triumph as ROBINSON CRUSOE.
A Beautiful Production.
Superbly Mounted.
Lavishly Dressed and Perfectly Interpreted, the whole forming an aggregation of Wealth of Splendour and Beauty Unequalled in the History of Pantomime.
FOUR NEW BALLETS, and instantaneous success of the latest craze, THE TRILBY BALLET.
New, Novel, and Exciting.
A Trained and Powerful Opera Chorus (specially engaged).
New and Beautiful Scenery.
GRAND TRANSFORMATION SCENE, "Through Fairy Mazes to the Home of the Naiads," by KINCHELA, RICKETTS, and Assistants.
SCREAMING HARLEQUINADE.
The entire production under the personal direction of Mr. ALFRED WOODS.
POPULAR PRICES OF ADMISSION.
Box Plan at Nicholson's (6d extra) for Booking during the Pantomime Season.
Doors open 7.15. Early doors (6d extra), 6.55. Commence 7.45.
J. L. LE BRETON, Acting Manager.

HER MAJESTY'S.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY MATINEES, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON (Boxing Day), and SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, of the Gorgeous Christmas Pantomime, ROBINSON CRUSOE, when children under 10 will be admitted to all parts of the House (Gallery excepted) for half-price.
Doors open 1.30. Performance 2 p.m.
Box-plan now open.

THOMSON, GATES, and CO.,

NOTED FOR STYLE, FIT, and HIGH-CLASS TAILORING.
GENUINE GOODS, MODERATE PRICES.
INDIGO DYED SERGES TO STAND SUN A SPECIALITY.
Country Residents.—Please write for Patterns, Measure Forms, and Fashion Plates.
185 PITT-STREET, Sydney.

VIOLIN, Mandolin, Guitar, Banjo.—Signor Rossi gives Lessons. Studio at Johnstone's, 27 Strand Arcade.

CRITERION THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager ... ... Mr. Tom Pollard.
Treasurer ... ... Mr. W. O. Sullivan.

A NOTABLE EVENT.

TO-NIGHT (Boxing Night), Thursday, December 26, and Every Evening until further notice, THE FAVOURITES OF SEVEN COLONIES, POLLARD'S LILLIPUTIAN OPERA COMPANY in Audran's Charming Comic Opera,

"I'm a Sad Sea Dog." — OLIVETTE OLIVETTE OLIVETTE. — "The Torpedo and the Whale."

PRODUCED REGARDLESS OF EXPENSE.
MAGNIFICENT WARDROBE and APPOINTMENTS.
NEW SCENERY by Mr. HARRY WHAITE.
Orchestra under the Baton of Mr. H. T. HARRISON.
The opera produced under the sole direction of Mr. TOM POLLARD, and by arrangement with Messrs. WILLIAMSON and MUSGROVE.
Prices—Dress Circle and Reserved Stalls, 4s; Stalls, 2s; Family Circle, 2s; Gallery, 1s.
Box Plan at the Theatre TO-DAY only.
Doors open 7. Performance 8 sharp. Carriages 10.30.
FRED. W. DUVAL, Business Manager.

THE NEW CYCLORAMA, JERUSALEM.

GEORGE-STREET, OPPOSITE RAILWAY STATION.

OPEN THIS (BOXING) DAY from 10 a.m. till 5.30 p.m.; and from 7 till 10 p.m.

LECTURES by Mr. B. A. REEVE, with Full Musical Accompaniments, at 3 and 8 p.m., and Explanations at intervals.

BEAUTIFUL LIMELIGHT EFFECTS.
THE STAR of BETHLEHEM.
Shadow of the Cross and Visions of Angels.
Calvary—Impressively Realistic.
THUNDER, LIGHTNING, and STORM.
Beautiful Vocal and Instrumental Music during Lectures and intervals.
All Day and Evening.

"Adeste Fideles" ... Christmas Hymn
QUARTETTE.
"Star of Bethlehem" ... S. Adams
Mr. BERNARD M'CAULEY.
"Jerusalem" (St. Paul) ... Mendelssohn
Miss VALERIE ELLESMERE.
"Ave Maria" ... Gounod
Miss LENNARD.
"To Thee, Great Lord" (Mosè in Egitto) ... Rossini
QUARTETTE.
"The Mighty Deep" ... Jude
Mr. ALEX. NEEDHAM.
"Sainted Mother" ... Wallace
Misses LENNARD and V. ELLESMERE.
"The Pilgrim" ... S. Adams
Mr. BERNARD M'CAULEY.

"Alas, Those Chimes" (Maritana) Wallace; "Angelus" trio, (Maritana); "Sweet and Low" quartette, (Barnby); "Dawn of Day" (S. Reay); "Good Night" (Seymour Smith), and other items.

SPORT and Prizes for Children on the Lawn.

ADMISSION, 1s. CHILDREN, 6d.

TAILORING.

TROUSERS, 17s 6d to measure, from new check tweeds and choice striped worsted, at reduced prices, all worth 21s per pair. 100 rolls to select from at this price. Mark you, 17s 6d. Genuine goods and splendid value for CASH only. Our system—No extra profits, as we have no bad debts.

Call and ask to see our Tropical Fine Blue Serge, a comfort to wear in Summer, and very durable.

Fashionable-cut Sac Suit, 75s. This is special value. Credit tailors charge much more. We are making Summer-weight Serges into fashionable Sac Suits at great REDUCTIONS, viz., Blue Rib, at 60s; also a splendid Black Llama Serge, tropical weight, 70s; another Blue at 67s 6d. In fact, we are able to boast of an unusual fine selection of Serges too numerous for space to mention.

Sergerettes, plain and check, in greys, fawn, and brown. Sac Suit of these goods, 60s, 70s, 75s, and 80s.

Remember, these prices are for the best work only. Hand-stitched edges, and well-finished garment in every way.

COUNTRY VISITORS, LOOK US UP!—We are Tailors only, and therefore you can be sure to be well fitted, well served. Our shop is in Pitt-street, next Market-street. Call in the daytime. Our establishment closes 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 p.m. No Traveller. No branches.

HOWES and HOWES,
MERCHANT TAILORS,
PITT-STREET (ONLY),
NEXT DOOR TO MARKET-STREET.

THE MAGIC CLEANSER for Saturday night's scrub and Monday morning's wash.

FERN BAY, FERN BAY. TO-DAY. TO-DAY.
THE PRETTIEST SPOT NEAR SYDNEY.
Undoubtedly the most POPULAR, most SELECT, and best conducted pleasure resort in the colonies.
NEW PAVILIONS, TEAROOMS, &c.
DANCING, DANCING, all Day and Evening till 10.30, in the Spacious and well-ventilated Pavilion.
Accommodation for thousands.
LANE'S STRING BAND delightful to dance to.
AMUSEMENTS OF ALL KINDS FOR YOUNG AND OLD.
Merry-go-round, Donkey Rides, Swings, &c., Free.
Bush and Summer Houses for Family Parties.
Fern and Wild Flowers in abundance.
Hot and Cold Water Free. Parents, bring your children.
NO OVERCROWDING.
LUNCHEON, AFTERNOON TEA, and other Refreshments. City prices.
SPECIAL DIRECT STEAMERS from foot King-street (cable tram to wharf) every half-hour. No waiting. All Saloon Steamers.
ADMISSION—Steamer, Grounds, Pavilion, &c., 1s. Children free to Grounds. Visitors to Sydney should not fail to see these Charming and Picturesque Grounds.
The rowdy element positively excluded; this is personally attended to.
NOTE—Open wet or fine.
LANE BROS.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL IS NOW READY.
Christmas Stories, Beautiful Illustrations, and Magnificent Coloured Supplement.
PRICE 6d. Order of all News Agents, or direct Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

LESSEES and MANAGERS ... ... Messrs. WILLIAMSON and MUSGROVE.
SUB-LESSEES and MANAGERS ... ... Mr. BROUGH and Mr. BOUCICAULT.
Acting Manager and Treasurer, Geo. L. Goodman; Representative, Mr. Mayne.

Mr. BROUGH and Mr. BOUCICAULT take pleasure in announcing the INAUGURATION OF THEIR COMEDY SEASON TO-NIGHT, DECEMBER 26, and the Reappearance in Sydney of Mr. and Mrs. BROUGH after their visit to Europe, in conjunction with the Members of their Company, which includes Messrs. BOUCICAULT, TITHERADGE, WARD, CAREY, DORRINGTON, M'INTYRE, Mesdames FABER, TEMPLE, HARDY, SPONG, WATT-TANNER, HILL.

PROGRAMME FOR FIRST EIGHT NIGHTS OF THE BROUGH-BOUCICAULT SEASON.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TO-NIGHT, DEC. 26, FRI., DEC. 27, | THE AMAZONS. | SAT., DEC. 28, MON., DEC. 30, | NIOBE. |
| TUES., DEC. 31, WED., JAN. 1, | THE MAGISTRATE. | THURS., JAN. 2, FRI., JAN. 3, | DANDY DICK. |

Box Plan now open at Nicholson and Co.'s and A. Hordern and Sons'.
PRICES AS USUAL. Early Doors 1s Extra. Day Tickets at Adam's Marble Bar.
SPECIAL NOTICE.—BOX-OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS.
The Box Plan for To-night Only will be on view at the Treasurer's Office, Castlereagh-street, To-day, Thursday, from 10 till 4.

ROYAL STANDARD THEATRE.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.
LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY.
POWERFUL COMPANY. MAGNIFICENT APPOINTMENTS.
POPULAR PRICES, 3s, 2s, 1s. CHILDREN HALF-PRICE.

YOUR OWN PORTRAIT.

Twelve of our lovely Rococo Portraits and a charming Rococo Enlargement, on a mount 24 x 19, for 15s. No extras of any kind. The Rococo Portraits are absolutely permanent. | Twelve of our beautiful Fine Art Cabinets and a splendid Enlargement on Opal, finished in the best style of High Art, for 17s 6d, without extras of any kind.

We GUARANTEE to every Customer Natural Posing, Artistic Lighting, Effective Retouching, and Skilful Finish. Our PORTRAITS are known Everywhere for fine gradation in half tone, with a boldness that makes every Picture stand out admirably crisp and delicate.

THE CROWN STUDIOS — THE CROWN STUDIOS

CORNER OF GEORGE AND MARKET STREETS, SYDNEY.

PICTURES AT XMAS.

If you have friends coming at Xmas, don't you think you had better have another picture or two, especially as they are so cheap? And Photo Frames are surprisingly cheap. Our Bevelled Mirrors are charmingly fascinating and ridiculously cheap.

THE CROWN FRAMING WORKS,
474 GEORGE-STREET (OPPOSITE THE MARKETS), SYDNEY.

TIVOLI THEATRE.
EARLY DOOR ANNOUNCEMENT.
Early door TO-NIGHT for all parts of the House, from 6.45 till 7.15.
SIXPENCE EXTRA.

TIVOLI THEATRE.
Sole Lessee ... Mr. Harry Rickards.

Mr. HARRY RICKARDS'S TIVOLI MINSTREL and SPECIALTY CO.
ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE THE GREATEST VARIETY SHOW ON EARTH FOR THE MONEY.
SUCCESS UPON SUCCESS.
ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION of MISS ALICE LEAMAR.
ALICE ALICE ALICE — Second Instalment of Mr. Rickards's ENGLISH ARTISTS. — LEAMAR LEAMAR LEAMAR
ENGLAND'S QUEEN OF SERIO-COMICS, appearing nightly at 9.20 in her Repertoire of Serio-Comic Songs, &c.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF THE
LENTON LENTON LENTON — Third Instalment of Mr. Harry Rickards's Imported Artists, — BROTHERS BROTHERS BROTHERS
THE FAMOUS CHINESE ACROBATS, introducing their Wonderful HEAD-TO-HEAD BALANCING and Marvellous HAT-THROWING.

A HEARTY WELCOME ACCORDED
Mr. J. W. WINTON, Mr. J. W. WINTON, Mr. J. W. WINTON — ENGLAND'S PREMIER VENTRILOQUIST
in his entirely new Ventriloquial Entertainment, entitled AN INTERRUPTED LETTER.

MAGNIFICENT RECEPTION NIGHTLY OF LITTLE MISS
ALMA ALMA ALMA — The Greatest Juvenile Serio-Comic in the World — GRAY GRAY GRAY
in an entirely New Repertoire.
TO-NIGHT'S PROGRAMME will include the full strength of the DOUBLE TIVOLI CO.
PRICES AS USUAL, 2s, 1s, and 6d.
Box plan at Paling's. Booking fee, 6d. Reserved seats kept till 8.5. Tiv. Tel., No. 353.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Come and enjoy yourselves for little money. 3d, 6d, and 1s.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, MOORE PARK.

BOXING DAY.

THE BEST, THE CHEAPEST, and by far the most amusing and instructive place to go to is the "ZOO."
By far the BEST PLACE for PICNICS is decidedly the "ZOO,"
with its well-kept Lawns, Terraces, and Flower Gardens, with its pretty Lake and Weeping Willows, Aquatic Plants, and Gold Fish.

ALL VISITORS TO SYDNEY should make a point of seeing the ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, and the Society's latest Novelty, the Wonderful "WILD MAN of the WOODS," or the OURANG-UTAN of BORNEO.

Parents should take their Children to the "ZOO" to see the "WILD MAN of the WOODS."

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS are of all places the most delightful place you can take your children to, for in the MENAGERIE they will see
Cages full of LIONS
Cages full of TIGERS and young CUBS
Cages full of PUMAS
ELEPHANTS and CAMELS
BEARS, Hyenas, Jackals, Dingoes, and all kinds of Animals too numerous to mention.

Ostriches, Emus, Cassowaries, Flamingoes, Swans, Ducks, Coots, Water Hens, Macaws, Parrots and Parrakeets, Eagles and Vultures, and Finches and Song Birds too many to enumerate.

At 3 p.m. Mr. J. BURROWS, the Elephant Keeper, will put JESSIE and TOBY through their WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE.

At 4 p.m. the LIONS, TIGERS, LEOPARDS, and PUMAS will be FED, and at 4.30 the PELICANS.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained at moderate prices at the Refreshment Rooms.

Admission to the Gardens, 6d; Children, 3d.

The Randwick and Coogee Trams stop at the Gates. Fare, 3d; Children, 1d.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Professor Price, the balloonist, appears to-night with Minstrel Company.

CORREY'S GARDENS, CABARITA.
BOXING DAY. BOXING DAY.
The Premier Pleasure Grounds of Australia.
Every comfort and convenience for pleasure seekers. Shady nooks and summer-houses for family picnics. Extensive flower gardens and well-kept grounds are now at their best.
DANCING DANCING DANCING
in the Largest and Best-ventilated Pavilion in the colonies. Dancing space for thousands, room for all, no crowding. Floor in splendid order. Young Australian Band. Efficient Ms.C. Good order and respectability may be relied on. Amusements for all, merry-go-round, swings, &c., free. Hot and cold water free. Luncheons and Refreshments as usual. Steamers will leave King-street Wharf every half-hour throughout the day from 10 o'clock. Favourite Pheasant, with band, 10.30.
NOTE THE CHARGE.
STEAMER, GROUNDS, and PAVILION, 1s.
'Buses from Burwood Station for the Gardens.
Picnic parties driving will find the trip by road to Cabarita one of the most picturesque out of Sydney. Good stabling. Telephone, 26 Burwood.
T. CORREY, Proprietor.

TO-DAY, TO-DAY, TO-DAY.—BONDI AQUARIUM is the place for fun.

COOGEE PALACE AQUARIUM.
TO-DAY, BOXING DAY.
12 HOURS' AMUSEMENT, 12
ONLY THE BEST ARTISTS ENGAGED.
Those who wish to spend a profitable and happy day will GO TO COOGEE PALACE AQUARIUM.
THE FAMOUS BAVARIAN BAND.
Mr. LARMOUR has engaged the following talented artists:—Misses Anderson, Clifton, the Higinbotham Family (3), Professor Gibson, Messrs. Val. Traynor, Chas. King, Joseph Farrow, the Lennon Brothers.
Mr. Henry Rawkins, R.A.M., Musical Director.
Dancing at intervals during the day.
The Haunted Swing. Its mysteries and pleasures.
The Swimming Baths from 6 a.m. till 10 p.m.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1895-6.
POPULAR EXCURSIONS to HAWKESBURY RIVER and PORT HACKING.
Weather permitting.
From Wharf, foot of Market-street, at 10 a.m. sharp.
BOXING DAY, THURSDAY, 26th December.
S.S. NAMOI, 1414 tons, to CAREEL BAY.
S.S. MAITLAND, 880 tons, to NEWPORT.
S.S. SYDNEY, 634 tons, to PORT HACKING.
NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1st January, 1896.
S.S. NEWCASTLE, 1251 tons, to COWAN BAY.
S.S. MAITLAND, 880 tons, to CAREEL BAY.
S.S. SYDNEY, 634 tons, to PORT HACKING.
Excursionists landed for about 3 hours, arriving in Sydney on return about 6 p.m.
LUNCHEON, 1s 6d (provided by the Company).
Refreshments at Moderate Rates.
BAND ENGAGED FOR EACH STEAMER.
RETURN FARES 3s.
Children Half-price.
F. J. THOMAS, Manager.
The Newcastle and H.R.S.S. Co., Ltd., 147 Sussex-street.

MAGIC CLEANSER v. Dirt.—Verdict for the plaintiff, with an order for more soap.

OFF are we to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

MIDDLE HARBOUR.
BOXING DAY.
SYDNEY CITY MISSION PICNIC to PEARL BAY, the Gem of Harbour Resorts.
The steamers WATERVIEW, ME MEL, HAWKESBURY, and KINGSLEY will leave FLOATING JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY, at intervals from 9 a.m.
Brass Band and United Mission Choir.
Mass Meeting on the grounds at 2.30, when Messrs. J. S. M'Gowen, F. E. M'Lean, D. Storey, Ms.L.A., &c., will speak.
Special provision for children's amusement.
Hot and cold water free. Refreshments at Sydney prices.
RATIONAL ENJOYMENT, PICTURESQUE SCENERY, AND A WORTHY CAUSE ASSISTED.
Tickets: Adults, One Shilling; Children, Sixpence.
E. MOORE, Gen. Sec.
Office—320 Pitt-street.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Edmonds, Ross, King, Spencer, Wilson, Misses Belmonte, Auria appear nightly.

PONY RACES.
TO-NIGHT (BOXING).
LILLIE BRIDGE.
PONY CARNIVAL (100 Sovs.).
5 RACES. 103 ACCEPTORS.
Special Forest Lodge and Glebe Point trams every few minutes.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.
GRAND ANNUAL CONCERT, CITY TOWN HALL, NEW YEAR'S NIGHT, 1st JANUARY, 1896.
Under the Patronage and in the Presence of His Excellency THE GOVERNOR, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, &c.
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.
The Celebrated Vocalist,
Mlle. ANTOINETTE TREBELLI
(the greatest singer who has ever visited Australia), has been engaged at an enormous expense, and will sing the following numbers:—
1. Polacca ("Mignon"), Thomas. 2. Song—"Within a Mile o' Edinboro' Toon" (Scotch). 3. Song—"Dear Bird of Winter" (Ganz).
The Favourite Scotch Vocalist from Victoria, Miss MAGGIE STIRLING, has also been engaged, and will sing the "Braes o' Gleniffer" and "CALLER HERRIN'."
PROGRAMME.
1. Quartette—"Scots Wha Hae" (Burns), MEISTERSINGER'S QUARTETTE PARTY.
2. Patriotic Song—"Bonnie Auld Scotland for Ever" (Ware), Mr. ALEX. EDWARD.
3. Song—"The Braes o' Gleniffer" (Scotch), Miss MAGGIE STIRLING.
4. 'Cello Solo—Fantaisie (Scotch), Herr VOLMAR.
5. Song—"Annie Laurie" (Lady Scott), Mr. J. M. LINDSAY.
6. Polacca, "Mignon" (Thomas), Mlle. ANTOINETTE TREBELLI.
7. Violin Solo, Mons. HORACE POUSSARD.
8. Quartette—"Bonnie Doon" (Scotch), MEISTERSINGER'S QUARTETTE PARTY.
9. Highland Dancing by prize-winners, under the direction of Pipe-Major M'KAY.
10. Song—"The Cottage Whaur Burns was Born" (Linn), Mr. ALEX. EDWARDS.
11. Song—"Within a Mile o' Edinboro' Toon" (Scotch), Mlle. ANTOINETTE TREBELLI.
12. 'Cello Solo—"Musette" (Leclaire), Herr VOLMAR.
13. Song—"Caller Herrin'" (Neil Gow), Miss MAGGIE STIRLING.
14. Song—"Mary of Argyle" (Scotch), Mr. J. M. LINDSAY.
15. Violin Solo—Mons. HORACE POUSSARD.
16. Song—"Dear Bird of Winter" (Ganz), Mlle. ANTOINETTE TREBELLI.
17. Trio—"Wine, the Magician Thou Art ("Rose of Castille") (Balfe), MEISTERSINGERS.
Mr. J. E. SYKES, Accompanist.
PRICES OF ADMISSION: Reserved Chairs (at Paling's), 4s; Unreserved, 3s, 2s, 1s.
NOTE.—The Committee takes this opportunity to inform the public that, as the funds of the Highland Society are principally to aid the deserving poor and distressed (of all countries), they hope to see every seat occupied. Patrons are, therefore, invited to come early and secure seats, and avoid the great crush at the doors, which will be opened at 7 p.m.
Concert at 8 p.m. sharp.
JAS. SOUTER, Hon. Sec. Concert Committee.
GORDON MARR, Hon. Sec. Highland Society.

ORGAN RECITAL.
TOWN HALL.
TO-NIGHT at 8 TO-NIGHT.
SPECIAL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
"THE STORM," Idylle No. 1.
"Maritana," "La Traviata," "Stabat Mater," "Don Giovanni," "Allelujah Chorus."
ADMISSION, 6d and 1s.

CENTENARY HALL, YORK-STREET.
NEXT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28.
GRAND COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT tendered by Mademoiselle ANTOINETTE TREBELLI and Signor DE BEAUPUIS to MR. J. EDWARD SYKES.
PRICES: 3s, 2s, and 1s.
F. VERT.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL is now ready.
Christmas Stories, beautiful Illustrations, and magnificent Coloured Supplement.
Price, 6d. Order of all news agents, or direct, Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

THEATRE ROYAL.

Sole Lessee and Manager ... Mr. C. B. Westmacott
Treasurer and Business Manager ... Mr. Frank Barnes

TO-NIGHT, TO-NIGHT, AND EVERY EVENING. TO-NIGHT, TO-NIGHT.

The Farcical Musical Comedy, in 3 acts
PAT or the BELLS OF RATHBEAL. PAT
Overture at 7.45.
Interpreted by the following Favourite Artists:—
Mr. WILFRED E. SHINE.
Miss ALLIE SENIOR. Mr. J. DRISCOLL FOLEY
Miss HARRIE IRELAND.
Mr. C. B. WESTMACOTT. Miss BEANEY GALLETLY.
Miss MINNA PHILLIPS.
Miss FANNIE EVELYN. Mr. C. R. STANFORD.
Miss FLORRIE FORDE.
Mr. J. W. HAZLITT. Miss DAISY HOLLY.
Mr. J. W. SWEENEY.
Also the Sisters ANDERSON, Little MARIE LOHR, and complete CORPS DE BALLET.
The Scenery by ... Mr. John Brunton
The Orchestra under the baton of ... Mr. David Cope
The production under the direction of ... Mr. J. W. Hazlitt
BOX PLAN at the Theatre.
Prices: Dress circle and reserved stalls, 3s; stalls, 2s; gallery, 1s. Early doors open at 6.55. Tickets (6d extra) obtainable only at Power's tobacconist shop, King-street. The pay house will be opened for the sale of general admission tickets at 7.15.

THEATRE ROYAL.
BOXING DAY. BOXING DAY.
THERE WILL BE A MATINEE of
PAT or the BELLS OF RATHBEAL. PAT
Doors open at 1.30. Commence at 2 p.m.

PHOTO. STUDIOS.

Why pay 15s for a Paper Enlargement when Mr. EDEN, the leading Photographer of Sydney, whose Studio is in George-street, opposite Railway, gives a genuine Opal Enlargement and 12 Enamelled Cabinets for 9s 6d? Mr. EDEN is the first tip-top Photographer who has genuinely reduced his prices, and any Sydney lady will tell you that the Eden Studios are crowded daily with fashionable ladies and pretty children. Country visitors should note that Mr. EDEN is the only advertising photographer not charging extra for enamelling, while he has never imposed extras for busts or ¾ positions. For 9s 6d you get 12 Enamelled Cabinets and a lovely Opal of yourself.

SYDNEY MUSIC HALL,
608, 610, 612 GEORGE-STREET (Lawler's Buildings, Brickfield-hill).
Proprietor: J. Lawler. Manager: W. P. Morris n.
PANTOMIME DE VARIETY,
TO-NIGHT AND SATURDAY 3 O'CLOCK MATINEE. TO-NIGHT.
HORACE BENT, the only Australian Comedian.
WILL WALLACE, engaged and brought from Melbourne to appear with BENT upon the corners.
Mr. Richard Shepherd — Mr. C. Wilton
Miss F. Murphy — Miss Eva Howard
Mr. ALICK RULE, Grotesque Dancer (JUST FROM LONDON).
The phenomenal B. INGERSOLL.
GRACEFUL, DELIGHTING, BEWITCHING BALLETS.
FULL STAFF OF LOVELY BALLERINAS.
GRAND MARCH OF THE AMAZONS.
24 CHARMING DANSEUSES 24.
GRAND VOCAL BALLET "CONSTANCY."
Composed expressly by Mr. H. Hawkins, R.A.M.
Miss ANNIE GRAY, Principal Dancer.
The Amazons, Great of Form. — The Amazons, Great of Grace. — The Amazons, Great of Style.
BEAUTIFUL NEW FIRST PART.
THE SNOWY RANGES.
THE COMPANY A LEGION STRONG.
100 ARTISTS 100
THE COMPANY A LEGION STRONG.
Assisted by Choristers, Supernumeraries, &c., ad lib.
The Entertainment to conclude with our PANTOMIME DE VARIETY HARLEQUINADE.
Various VARIETY SCENES and IMPOSING TABLEAUX, specially painted.
New and Costly Costumes by Mrs. W. P. Morrison.
Armour, Banners, Screens, Cannons, Guns, Lions, Shields, &c.
Properties by J. Fraser and Assistants.
HARLEQUINADE.
Clown, Gus Franks — Policeman, Jim Mooney
Pantaloon, Jack Williams — Harlequin, Connie Moreni
Columbine, Miss Agnes Gray.
Produced under the able direction of Mr. George Dean, Stage Manager.
Reserved Seats booked daily, 10 to 5. Tel., 66.
Prices, 2s, 1s, 6d. Saturday Afternoon, 3 p.m. 6d, 1s.
Doors open 7, Curtain 8.

TEMPERANCE HALL, Pitt-st.—Gibbons' Minstrel Company every evening. 3d, 6d, and 1s.

AUSTRALIAN JOCKEY CLUB.
AUSTRALIAN JOCKEY CLUB.
SUMMER (1895) MEETING.
Patron: HIS EXCELLENCY VISCOUNT HAMPDEN.
RANDWICK RACECOURSE.
TO-DAY TO-DAY (BOXING DAY) and SATURDAY, 28th instant.
FIRST RACE AT HALF-PAST TWELVE O'CLOCK.
SIX RACES.
T. S. CLIBBORN, Secretary A.J.C.

CLONTARF. CLONTARF.
BOXING DAY.
ONE SHILLING RETURN.
Dancing in the Pavilion. Admission, One Shilling. Ladies free. Children not admitted.
Steamers leave Prince's Stairs from 9.30 a.m. until 3 p.m. Last return, 6 p.m.
Trip to the Head of Middle Harbour, 3 p.m.

SIR JOSEPH BANKS', BOTANY (under New Management), the Famous Pleasure Resort.—BOXING DAY. Dancing in the large Pavilion. Fashionable dancing only. Full String Orchestra. The pretty garden, the Zigzag railway, the lovely beach. Swings! Swings! Hat and cloak rooms. Strictly select. Refreshments to be had on the ground. Ballroom dancing only. The Management reserves the right to refuse the admittance of any objectionable person. Admission, 1s 6d; Children half-price. Hot and cold water provided.

TO-DAY, TO-DAY, TO-DAY.—BONDI AQUARIUM is the place for fun.

(Continued on page 2.)

## Books, Publications, &c.

ENGLISH and Foreign Magazines and Newspapers supplied by Turner and Henderson, Hunter-st., Sydney.

CHRISTMAS NUMBERS, with Handsome Supplements.—Black and White, Ill. London News, each 1s; Graphic, Holly Leaves, Yuletide, each 1s 6d; postage extra, 4d each. GORDON and GOTCH, 123 Pitt-street.

NEW YEAR CARDS, just opened, in endless variety. Smith, 406 George-st.

LATEST NOVELS, Magazines, Boys' and Girls' Annuals, 6s 6d; Chatterbox, 2s 6d. Smith, 406 Geo.-st.

## Miscellaneous.

WANTED, kind Person to take Charge of Baby Boy, 1 month old. Address N. N., Herald Office, King-st.

## Wanted to Purchase.

MR. and Miss MITCHELL, oldest-established Wardrobe Purchasers in the colony, still giving the extreme value for Ladies' and Gentlemen's and Children's Cast-off Clothing. Portmanteaus, Articles of every description Bought. Old Gold and Artificial Teeth Bought. Letters promptly attended. Goulburn and Elizabeth sts.

OLD Artificial Teeth, Old Artificial Teeth Bought, highest price given. B. Mitchell, Goul. and Eliz. sts.

MR. and Mrs. BARNETT, Old-established Wardrobe Purchasers, still give Extreme Value for every description Ladies' and Gentlemen's Left-off Clothing, Portmanteaus, Old Gold, Silver, Artificial Teeth, and articles of every description bought. Letters punctually attended to by Mr. or Mrs. BARNETT, 124 Bathurst-st.

OLD POSTAGE STAMPS, COLLECTIONS and early AUSTRALIAN issues, Purchased. Highest prices paid. SMYTH and NICOLLE, Stamp Dealers, 14 Hunter-street.

MRS. SAYERS still continues give best Prices Left-off CLOTHING, Sundries. 108 Bathurst-st.

STAMPS.—Old Australians and Collections bought highest prices. Fred. Hagen, 74 Elizabeth-st.

FAT (Kitchen) bought, Soap exchanged; cart by appointment, city, subs. Marlton, 161 George-st., Erskineville.

TICKETS, rail or boat, wanted any part colonies, England, elsewhere. Davis, 108 Pitt-st., op. G.P.O.

TICKETS.—Melbourne, excursion, wanted; will give 30s; others bought, sold, exc. Firkins, 135 King-st.

TICKETS issued by Companies belonging to the S.S. Owners' Association are NOT TRANSFERABLE, and if improperly used will be confiscated and users prosecuted. A. B. COCKBURN, Secretary S.S. Owners' Association.

WANTED, a second-hand Breaking-down LOG FRAME, four (4) feet, complete. J. A. CURTIS, Tattersall's-buildings, Hunter and Castlereagh streets.

WANTED to Purchase, Left-off CLOTHING. Letters attended. Mrs. Sorensen, 139 Bathurst-st.

WANTED, two First-class TICKETS, Sydney to Adelaide. James, Herald Office.

GOOD-BYE to Dirt.—The Magic Cleanser washes it out most thoroughly and effectually.

## Hotels.

ASCHE.—Mr. and Mrs. THOMAS ASCHE, Imperial Hotel, Wynyard-square.

AUCKLAND.—The GRAND HOTEL, opposite Government House. Mrs. M. Gallagher, proprietress.

AT HOBART HEATHORN'S HOTEL is the leading Hotel, conveniently situated, and has Superior Accommodation for Tourists, Visitors, &c. T. HEATHORN, Proprietor.

BLACKHEATH. THE IVANHOE, 3500ft. above the sea. Excellent Accommodation for Visitors. A Favourite Health Resort.

BLUE MOUNTAINS.—The GRAND HOTEL, Lawson, is under entirely new management, and replete with every comfort and conv. for the ensuing season, having been refurnished and decorated throughout. Smoke, reading, billiard, and private suites of rooms, also livery stable. Invalids specially studied. For tariff apply Manager.

HELENSBURGH, Paragon Hotel.—First-class Accom. travellers, easy dist. Syd. cyclists. G. Welsh, propr.

MOSS VALE FAMILY HOTEL.—SYDNEY to SYDNEY, via NOWRA.—Day Coach, thrice weekly, for tourists, stopping, if required, at Charming Fitzroy Falls, Kangaroo Valley, and Cambewarra, as per arrangement. Terms moderate. Saturday to Monday, return fare, 7s 2d. CHAS. L. INGATE, Proprietor.

SPRINGWOOD, Blue Mountains.—First-class Accommodation, 25s per week, private tables 2 guineas; reduced rates from Saturday till Monday; horses, vehicle kept for conven. of visitors. D. MUTCH, Royal Hotel.

THE GRAND HOTEL, Melbourne.—400 Bedrooms, Private Suites, Public, Drawing, Reading Rooms, &c. Three guineas per week, or 10s per day. Bed and breakfast—single rooms, 5s; dle. rm., 10s. A. F. Beker, manager.

THE CARRINGTON, KATOOMBA, is most centrally situated for viewing the Blue Mountain Scenery. Accommodation for 150 visitors. Unsurpassed in the Colonies. Reduced Tariff. F. C. GOYDER, Proprietor.

VISITORS to Wentworth Falls will find every comfort at TOLL'S HOTEL, which overlooks principal sights.

## Apartments, Board and Residence.

ARNOTT HOUSE, Wynyard-sq.—Private Boarding ESTAB., MOST ELEGANT HOUSE, every modern conv., situation unsurpassed; billiard-room for use of boarders free. Single Rooms, 25s. Charges greatly reduced.

A.—Comfortable Home, including breakfast and late dinner, 16s weekly. Ivy Lodge, 41 Pitt-st., Redfern.

AT EURABAH, Ocean-st., Woollahra.—VACANCIES terms moderate. Telephone, 112 Edgecliffe.

AT HOBART.—Private Boarding Establishment, central. Mrs. G. Golding, Eltham, 131 Bathurst-st.

BUNDANOON.—Mountain Home, board, resid., 21s wk., or 4s day, inc. buggies, piano. Mrs. Bearmann.

BEAUTIFUL, fur. large Balcony and Single ROOM, in first-class home, superior table and best attendance. Terms 18s. Every comfort assured. Sappho, 6 Upper William-street, Darlinghurst.

BELMONT HOUSE, No. 20 Carrington-street, Wynyard-square, is the best place for Visitors to stay; every home comfort, excellent cuisine, and every attention.

GENTLEMEN should not fail to ask at Power's Hotel for genuine Apricot Brandy and Malio Victoria Cigars.

HAZELBROOK, Blue Mountains.—Woodland.—Sup. Accom. for visitors, piano, bath, min. stn. Mrs. Duff.

KATOOMBA.—Tenora House.—Priv. Accom., every home comfort, terms mod., good table. Mrs. Smale.

KATOOMBA.—Excellent Accom. at St. Elmo. A few Double Rooms Disengaged. Terms moderate.

KATOOMBA.—Visitors will find Superior HOME with comfort, terms mod. Westella, Katoomba-st.

LAWSON COFFEE PALACE is noted for Comfort, High-class Cuisine, central for all sights, baths, tennis, swings, &c.; bridal apartments a speciality, modern and up to date. Send for circular. C. WHITE.

MRS. LAVENDER, Professional Nurse and Accoucheuse, receives Ladies requiring nurse or medical attendance. Home comforts. Established 1884. Windermere, 132 Flinders-street, Moore Park. Telephone, 1521.

UNFURNISHED ROOM in return for services to kind person. 477 Crown-st., Surry Hills.

THE mandate of the country is the Magic Cleanser, and nothing else.

## Houses, Land, &c., Wanted.

WANTED, small Grocery, subs., comf. dwelling, and stable. Particulars Confidential Grocer, G.P.O.

WANTED, cheap RESIDENCE, with 1 to 6 acres, near city, keep poultry. W. W., Herald Office.

OFF are we to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

## To Let.

THE BEST WAY to KEEP GOOD TENANTS is to PAPER with our Cheap WALLPAPERS or effective design and colouring, and use Duresco. JAMES SANDY and CO., 271 and 330 George-street, near G.P.O.

A.—New SHOP and Dwelling, up to date, con., suit any bus., rent 30s. Searle, Randwick tram terminus.

ARNCLIFFE, Stanley-st., close to station.—COTTAGE, 6 rooms, every convenience, rent 10s. F. Barden.

A COTTAGE to LET, No. 1 Neutral-street, North Sydney, 4 good rooms, kitchen, rent low. Key next door. MARSHALL and DEMPSTER, 112 Pitt-street.

ASHFIELD.—Pleasantly-situated, comfortable, clean, and commodious semi-detached VILLAS, each 5 large rooms, balconies, washhouses, conveniences, large yards, and good plots ground in front. 56-8 Arthur-street, 5 minutes from Ashfield Railway station. 8s per week.

A GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE to LET, furnished or unfurnished, at Strathfield, with early possession, 11 rooms, stabling, tennis and other lawns, good orchard, &c.; a splendid home. Apply TATE and LAWLER, 1 Post Office-chambers, Pitt-street, city; or J. T. SHAW, Strathfield.

BAKERY, grand chance, every conv., 25 years estab., good oven, dwelling, &c. 144 Macquarie-st., S. Hills.

BLACKHEATH.—Furn. Cottages, 4 and 6 rooms, main st., best positn. Mrs. A. Smith, Nibelung, Bl'heath.

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TRAFALGAR, 42 Newtown-road, city, facing Victoria Park, hall, drawing, dining, and breakfast rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, and usual modern offices; rent, £7 per month. Key next door.

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CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT COLOURED SUPPLEMENT.
PRICE, 6d. Order of all NEWS AGENTS, or direct HEAD Office, Pitt, Hunter and O'Connell streets.

MOTHER will have no other Soap in the house but MAGIC CLEANSER.

OFF are we to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

VISITORS TO SYDNEY are cordially invited to spend a few hours at HORDERNS' in PITT-STREET, where NEW ATTRACTIONS and NICE GOODS at Cheapest Prices await them.

TO-MORROW, FRIDAY, DEC. 27.

HORDERNS' IN PITT-STREET Head Dressmaker will welcome Ladies, and take their measure for future reference, if it so pleases you; and HORDERNS' IN PITT-STREET Head Cutter will do likewise for the Gentlemen.

(CLOSED TO-DAY, DEC. 26.)

A PARCEL of HORDERNS' IN PITT-STREET NICE GOODS to take back to your homes is not a bad suggestion.

HORDERNS' IN PITT-STREET is between Market and King streets, and the name is prominently placed over each doorway.

(CLOSED TO-DAY, DEC. 26.)

HORDERN BROTHERS, 203 to 211 PITT-STREET (ONLY), SYDNEY. Direct Importers of Drapery, Carpets, Boots and Shoes, and hundred etceteras.

## Professions, Trades, &c.

ALL Lady Visitors are invited to inspect the Strand Millinery School. Call circ'rs. Miss Price, 18th Strand.

ADVICE and MEDICINE, 2s 6d.—Dr. AGASSIZ, Legally Qualified Medical Practitioner and Surgeon, registered by the Medical Board of N.S. Wales, sees patients daily, 603 Geo.-st., opposite Goulburn-st.

AT MADAME FELS' Academy of DRESSCUTTING. Ladies are instructed in all branches of Dressmaking, and made competent to fill first-class positions. Send for circular, 84 Newtown-road, opp. University, and directly opposite Cleveland-street Tram Waiting-room.

ARTISTIC.—Mr. EDEN, the Leading Photographer of Sydney, has during his sojourn in New Zealand and Adelaide photographed many Governors and titled persons, among whom are the following:—Lord Onslow, Sir W. Jervois, Gov. Broome, Sir William Robinson, the Prince, Princes, Rev. Chas. Clark, Gen. Booth, J. J. Toole, Esq., and many others; but although Mr. Eden possesses the most flattering letters from these personages, still he values quite as much the approval of his customers who have paid their money. The fact that there are more people taken at the Eden Studios (which are in George-st., opp. railway) than at any studio in the city is a proof positive that each customer has been delighted with the work; and don't forget the fact that Mr. Eden charges no extra for enamelling, and gives a genuine opal enlargement and not a cheap paper one, while the price is lower than Houses giving only paper enlargements.

ARTISTIC.—Mr. PEEL, the leading Photographer of N.S.W., has during his sojourn in New Zealand, New Guinea, New Britain, New Ireland, and many other South Sea islands, Photographed many Governors and titled persons, both in primitive and modern costumes, amongst whom are the following:—King Mag-Mag and his wife Maggie, King Bunkum and Queen Skiter, King Bluff and Queen Chaffy, many royal princes, reverend gentlemen, domain orators, ditto squatters, and other notable personages; from all these Mr. Peel has received cartloads of testimonials. Now we are not making a Toole of you, and there is no Blow about this. The fact that Mr. Peel is photographing more people in one day than any other photographer is doing in a week, together with the fact that our price is only 7s 6d for 12 Enamelled CABINETS and a 12 x 10 Opal, is a positive proof that we please every customer, by giving better value than is obtainable in any part of Sydney. Now, understand, we do not charge for enamelling, we do not charge for choice of pose—in fact, we do not charge anything but 7s 6d for 12 enamelled Cabinets and an enlargement on Opal. Note the Address: PEEL'S Studios (over Beale's), 482 George-street, Sydney.

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AND so say all of us—there is no Soap to be compared to the MAGIC CLEANSER.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.—Wanted, a MAN to carry our samples on the Southern line, also a Man doing the back country; good commission. BOWEN BROS., Boot Manufacturers, Orange.

KINDERGARTEN.—Wanted, an efficient Resident Kindergarten TEACHER, able to give instruction in the system and to assist in the supervision of boarders. Apply to the President, Burwood Ladies' College, Burwood.

MEDICAL PRACTICES for SALE, Locum Tenens, &c. L. Bruck, medical agent, 18 Castlereagh-st.

MEDICAL.—J. BURGESS, Medical Agent, 79 Pitt-st. Queensland Practice for Sale. Inc., £800. Appts, £300.

PARTNER WANTED.

A Gentleman of good address, with £2000 capital, to join another with a similar amount in an entirely new business that will be in the unique position of having no opposition, and being the only one of its kind in the Australian colonies. Further particulars IVAN HENRY, 119 King-street.

SYDNEY HOSPITAL.—Wanted, a duly qualified Gentleman as MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT; salary £300 per annum, with board and quarters. Duties to commence on 1st February, 1896.

Candidates are invited to make personal application to the undersigned between 12 and 1 p.m.

Applications, with credentials, to be forwarded not later than 10 a.m. of MONDAY, 30th December. GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Medical Superintendent.

SYDNEY HOSPITAL.—Wanted, one Senior Resident MEDICAL OFFICER, salary £100 per annum, and four Resident MEDICAL OFFICERS at £50 each per annum, to enter upon their duties on 1st April, 1896.

Candidates are invited to make personal application to the undersigned between 12 and 1 p.m.

Applications, with credentials, to be forwarded not later than 10 a.m. of MONDAY, 30th December. GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Medical Superintendent.

TO Blacksmiths.—First-class Horseshoer and General Smith. Apply early, 630 Harris-st., Ultimo.

TYPEWRITERS on HIRE or Sale. Jones, Shorthand and Typewriting School, 21 Elizabeth-st.

TO MASTER MILLERS.—Wanted, by a Young Man, with 9 years' experience in one of the leading roller mills of the colony, SITUATION as Roller Man. Highest references from present employer as to character and ability. TOTAL ABSTAINER. Address A. KILLICK, Murrumburrah.

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HOUSEKEEPER.—Scrub your floors and linen with the Magic Cleanser Soap.

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MASTER Bakers.—Rel. Tradesmen always obtainable, town, cntry. Sec., Fed. Bakers. Lighthouse Hotel, city.

NO Wonder the MAGIC CLEANSER is everywhere for it does what no other Soap can do.

THE CROWD Crowding in Crowds to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

## Servants Wanted.

CHIEF wanted, must be first-class man, well up in restaurant work, strictly sober. 17 Hunter-st.

WE want six WAITERS for to-day. J. and J. Wilson, Park-st.

WANTED, at once, General SERVANT, no washing. Apply 638 Harris-st., Ultimo.

WANTED, good Shirt Ironer, also good Washer. Jas. Gordon, Neutral Bay Laundry, off Mil.-rd., N. Syd.

WANTED, a HOUSEMAID, low wages. Apply New Zealand Boarding-house, 130 Sussex-st., early.

WANTED, smart KITCHENMAN, also Chief COOK, for the day. 210 Sussex-st.

WANTED, a WET NURSE, to go out with infant 6 months old. Apply 10 o'clock, Dr. COLLINGWOOD, Summer Hill.

YOUNG MAN wanted, to make himself useful. Reply 40 Erskine-st.

THE CROWD Crowding in Crowds to BONDI AQUARIUM TO-DAY.

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD
ONE PENNY PER COPY.
IN ADVANCE: 6d per week; 6s 6d per quarter.
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While every care is exercised, the proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for non-insertion of advertisements through accident or otherwise; and they reserve to themselves the right of omitting advertisements received and paid for in the usual course of business if they appear to be objectionable.

For the convenience of advertisers, replies to advertisements may be sent to the Herald Office, Hunter-street, also to the Branch Office, King-street; but the proprietors do not accept any responsibility in this respect.

Advertisements are classified as far as possible for the convenience of readers. Advertisers will oblige by indicating, in the first line of the manuscript or order, under which particular heading the advertisement should appear. While every care is taken in classification, no responsibility is accepted.

All advertisements under six lines will be charged to the advertiser's account if booked.

Advertisers in the country can remit payment by Cheque, Money Order, or Postage Stamps.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages, 2s each insertion. This includes publication in the "Sydney Mail."

Notices of BIRTHS and DEATHS cannot be inserted in this journal unless endorsed with the name and address of the person by whom they are sent.

Notices of MARRIAGES cannot be inserted unless certified as correct by the officiating Minister or Registrar.

This rule is rendered necessary in consequence of false and malicious notices having been sent for publication for the purpose of annoying respectable persons.

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The Pillar Box at Redfern Railway Station for receipt of advertisements and communications is cleared every evening at 10.30.

SYDNEY.—Printed and Published by JOHN FAIRFAX AND SONS, at the office of The Sydney Morning Herald, Pitt and Hunter streets, Thursday, December 26, 1895.